



## Pelosi: Impeaching Trump 'just not worth it'

By MARY CLARE JALONICK and LISA MASCARO  
WASHINGTON (AP) —

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi is setting a high bar for impeachment of President Donald Trump, saying he is "just not worth it" even as some on her left flank clamor to start proceedings.

Pelosi said in an interview with The Washington Post that "I'm not for impeachment" of Trump.

"Unless there's something so compelling and overwhelming and bipartisan, I don't think we should go

down that path, because it divides the country," she said.

While she has made similar comments before, Pelosi is making clear to her caucus and to voters that Democrats will not move forward quickly with trying to remove Trump from office. And it's a departure from her previous comments that Democrats are waiting on special counsel Robert Mueller to lay out findings from his Russia investigation before considering impeachment.

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# Loss of local news hinders ability to watchdog government

By **MICHAEL CASEY**

One of the last investigations Jim Boren oversaw before he retired as executive editor of The Fresno Bee was a four-month examination of substandard housing in the city at the heart of California's Central Valley.

The multimedia project revealed the living conditions imposed on many of the city's low-income renters, many of them immigrants: apartments filled with mold, mice and cockroaches, to name some of the more glaring problems. Local housing advocates compared it to the tainted water crisis in Flint, Michigan.

The investigation got immediate results.

"We made people's lives



Penelope Muse Abernathy, a University of North Carolina professor, stands with the daily newspaper selection in the Park Library at the School of Journalism in Chapel Hill, N.C., on Thursday, March 7, 2019.

Associated Press

better. We changed laws," said Boren, who retired in 2017 and is now director of

the Institute for Media and Public Trust at Fresno State University.

Among other things, the city responded by requiring property owners to make repairs when it found violations, rather than just levy fines.

"Those are the kinds of things that journalists do," Boren said.

It's the kind of journalism — holding local government officials accountable for problems that affect the lives of real people — that is in danger of being lost in many communities around the country.

Newspapers are closing or being consolidated at an astounding rate, often leaving behind what researchers label as news deserts — towns and even entire counties that have no consistent local media coverage.

According to an Associated Press analysis of data compiled by the University of North Carolina, more than 1,400 towns and cities in the U.S. have lost a newspaper over the past 15 years. Many of those are in rural and lower-income

areas, often with an aging population.

The loss of a reliable local news source has many consequences for the community. One of them is the inability to watchdog the actions of government agencies and elected officials.

Newspapers typically have played the lead role in their communities in holding local officials accountable. That includes filing requests to get public records that shine a light on government action — or inaction — or even filing lawsuits to promote transparency.

"Strong newspapers have been good for democracy, and both educators and informers of a citizenry and its governing officials. They have been problem-solvers," said Penelope Muse Abernathy, a University of North Carolina professor who studies news industry trends and oversaw the "news desert" report released last fall.

"That is what you are missing when you don't have someone covering you and bringing transparency or sunlight onto govern-

ment decisions and giving people a say in how those government decisions are made."

The absence of a local newspaper playing a watchdog role also can translate into real costs to a community and its taxpayers.

Researchers from the University of Illinois at Chicago and the University of Notre Dame found that municipal borrowing costs increase after a newspaper ceases publication. They found the increase had nothing to do with the economy. Rather, the demise of a paper leaves readers in the dark and emboldens elected officials to sign off on higher wages, larger payrolls and ballooning budget deficits, their study found.

"Our evidence suggests that a local government is more likely to engage in wasteful spending when there is no local newspaper to report on that government," said University of Illinois Chicago's Dermot Murphy, one of the study's authors. "Investors find it riskier to lend money to wasteful governments, and thus the costs of financing public infrastructure projects, such as schools, hospitals, and roadways, for a local government are higher."

Stanford University's James Hamilton applies a wider lens to the problem of newspaper closures, examining the benefits that come with investigative journalism — and what is lost when it disappears.

In his book "Democracy's Detective," he examined several case studies of newspaper investigations, including police shootings of civilians, and found that each dollar spent by the news organization generated hundreds of dollars in benefits to society. □

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## PELOSI

### Continued from Front

That thinking among Democrats has shifted, slightly, in part because of the possibility that Mueller's report will not be decisive and because his investigation is more narrowly focused. Instead, House Democrats are pursuing their own broad, high-profile investigations that will keep the focus on Trump's business dealings and relationship with Russia, exerting congressional oversight without having to broach the I-word.

Oversight and Reform Committee Chairman Elijah Cummings, one of the lawmakers leading those investigations, said he agrees with Pelosi and Congress needs "to do our homework." He said impeachment "has to be a bipartisan effort, and right now it's not there."

"I get the impression this matter will only be resolved at the polls," Cummings said.

Still, Pelosi's comments are certain to stoke a stubborn tension with those who believe impeachment proceedings should have begun on day one of the new Congress. Some new freshman Democrats who hail from solidly liberal districts haven't shied away from the subject — Michigan Rep. Rashida Tlaib used a vulgarity in calling for Trump's impeachment the day she was sworn in.

Billionaire activist Tom Steyer, who is bankrolling a campaign pushing for Trump's impeachment, shot back at Pelosi on Monday: "Speaker Pelosi thinks 'he's just not worth it?' Well, is defending our legal system 'worth it?' Is holding the president accountable for his crimes and cover-ups 'worth it?' Is doing what's right 'worth it?' Or shall America just stop fighting for our principles

and do what's politically convenient."

Neil Sroka of the liberal advocacy group Democracy for America said Pelosi's comments were "a little like an oncologist taking chemotherapy off the table before she's even got your test results back." Other lawmakers who have called for impeachment looked at Pelosi's comments more practically. Rep. Brad Sherman, D-Calif., who filed articles of impeachment against Trump on the first day of the new Congress in January, acknowledged that there is not yet public support for impeachment, but noted that Pelosi "didn't say 'I am against it if the public is clamoring for it.'"

Sherman said that the multiple Democratic investigations of Trump might be a substitute for impeachment, "it's also possible it will be a prelude." Republicans alternately praised Pelosi and were skeptical. White House press secretary Sarah Sanders said "I agree" in response to Pelosi's words.

Sanders added of impeachment, "I don't think it should have ever been on the table."

House Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy said it was a "smart thing for her to say," but Georgia Rep. Doug Collins, the top Republican on the Judiciary Committee, said he doesn't think it's "going to fly" with some of Pelosi's members.

"I do believe what Speaker Pelosi understands is that what they're wanting to do is going to require far more than what they have now, so I think they are hedging their bet on it," Collins said. Pelosi has long resisted calls to impeach the president, saying it's a "divisive" issue that should only be broached with "great care."

She refused calls when

she first held the speaker's gavel, in 2007, to start impeachment proceedings against George W. Bush. Having been a member of Congress during President Bill Clinton's impeachment, she saw the way the public turned on Republicans and helped Clinton win a second term. Heading into the midterm elections, she discouraged candidates from talking up impeachment, preferring to stick to the kitchen table issues that she believes most resonate with voters. Pelosi has often said the House should not pursue impeachment for political reasons, but it shouldn't hold back for political reasons, either. Rather, she says, the investigations need to take their course and impeachment, if warranted, will be clear. Freshman Democrats who



In this Wednesday, Feb. 27, 2019 file photo, House Oversight and Reform Committee Chair Elijah Cummings, D-Md., right, speaks as he gives closing remarks with Rep. Jim Jordan, R-Ohio, the ranking member, at left, as the hearing for Michael Cohen, President Donald Trump's former lawyer, at the House Oversight and Reform Committee concludes, on Capitol Hill, in Washington.

Associated Press

are from more moderate districts and will have to win re-election again in two years have been fully supportive of Pelosi's caution.

"When we have something that's very concrete, and

we have something that is compelling enough to get a strong majority of Americans, then we'll do it," said Rep. Katie Hill, D-Calif. "But if it's going to be a political disaster for us, then we're not going to do it." □

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## Democrats: Milwaukee convention choice shows party values

By **BILL BARROW, SCOTT BAUER and IVAN MORENO**  
Associated Press

**MILWAUKEE (AP)** — Milwaukee will host the 2020 Democratic National Convention, party leaders announced Monday, highlighting the battleground state of Wisconsin that helped elect President Donald Trump and now will launch an opponent who could oust him.

Democratic National Committee Chairman Tom Perez chose Milwaukee over Houston and Miami after deliberations lingered longer than party leaders or officials from the three finalist cities had expected.

"Where you hold our convention is a very strong statement of your values and who and what we are fighting for," Perez said Monday surrounded by state and local officials.

Perez praised Milwaukee's diversity and its labor unions, along with Wisconsin's working-class identity. He called it an ideal backdrop for Democrats to launch a fall campaign to reclaim the White House four years after Trump stunningly outpaced Hillary Clinton across the old industrial belt of the upper Midwest and Great Lakes. "The Democratic Party has again become an every ZIP code party," Perez said. "We're listening to people in every corner of the country."

The convention is scheduled for July 13-16, 2020.

It will be the first time in over a century that Democrats will nominate their presidential candidate in a Midwestern city other than Chicago. Instead, the spotlight will shine for a week on a metro area of about 1.6 million people.

Once dubbed as "The Machine Shop of the World,"



This Dec. 13, 2017 photo shows The Milwaukee Art Museum, on water front, and the downtown skyline in Milwaukee.

Associated Press

the city is the birthplace of Harley-Davidson motorcycles and is known for its enduring love affair with beer — a trait displayed Monday as Perez and surrounding dignitaries closed their celebratory news conference with a toast.

Republicans are set to gather in Charlotte, the largest city in battleground North Carolina, on Aug. 24-27, 2020.

Perez noted that the convention site doesn't determine the November outcome, but Democrats see plenty of symbolism in Milwaukee after a bitter 2016 election defined by Clinton being nearly swept in what her campaign aides had confidently called a Midwestern "Blue Wall." That band of states twice sided with President Barack Obama, but Clinton held only Minnesota, ceding Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania — a combined 64 of the necessary 270 electoral votes — as white working-class voters flocked to Trump.

It was the first time since 1984 that Republicans claimed Wisconsin in a

presidential election. Afterward, Clinton took withering criticism for not once visiting Wisconsin as a general election candidate.

Since then, Wisconsinites re-elected Democratic Sen. Tammy Baldwin and ousted Republican Gov. Scott Walker in favor of Democrat Tony Evers and the state's first black lieutenant governor, Mandela Barnes.

Evers and Barnes beamed Monday as they welcomed Perez.

Wisconsin Democrats pointed to those midterm election results as they lobbied Perez and DNC officials. "We plan to carry that momentum into 2020 and beyond," Barnes said Monday.

"The path to the presidency goes right through Wisconsin as we learned in 2016," Baldwin, who won re-election in 2018, told The Associated Press. "In 2016, the industrial heartland was really the key and having this convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, I think is a powerful statement that nobody should be taken for granted."

In a political twist, Milwaukee officials have credited Walker for supporting the convention bid. Democratic Party proceedings will play out in the new 17,500-seat arena that Walker helped build for the NBA's Milwaukee Bucks by securing public financing from state lawmakers. Walker later lobbied GOP-leaning business leaders and donors to support Milwaukee's effort to land the event.

Perez was not among those praising Walker, repeatedly referring to the "former governor" without naming him and blasting his policies, particularly his fights with public unions and his spending priorities on education, for setting up Democrats' midterm success. For his part, Walker avoided the rancor.

"When it comes to a big convention like this, it's not red, it's not blue, it's green," Walker told the AP after the announcement, referring to the economic impact.

Walker did warn Democrats that for all their enthusiasm, the convention could energize complacent Wisconsin Republicans to Trump's

benefit. "I think you'd be hard-pressed to find anyone who leans Democrat who wasn't already motivated in the city or the state against the president," Walker said.

Democratic officials in Washington said picking a host city is as much about logistics as anything else, even as they acknowledge political optics.

On logistics, Milwaukee may have pulled somewhat of an upset, given its small footprint compared to Houston and Miami, cities long accustomed to hosting major events. Houston hosted the Super Bowl as recently as February 2017.

Milwaukee organizers pitched their city — the Democratic stronghold of Wisconsin — as resurgent. Known for some of the country's biggest brewers, including Pabst, Schlitz, Miller and Blatz, the metro area has a redeveloped downtown, a hotel capacity exceeding 17,000 rooms and a new downtown streetcar line that opened in November.

Still, the city had to prove it has the overall capacity for tens of thousands of delegates, party activists, donors and media.

DNC officials have said that the question wasn't about hotel rooms but about whether Milwaukee has requisite venues for other convention staples, from daily sit-down breakfast meetings for 57 state and territorial delegations to evening events put on by state parties, corporations, lobbyists and donors. Even as Milwaukee officials insisted they have the venues, some deep-pocketed Democrats in nearby Chicago — a 90-minute drive — stepped in to note their proximity. □



# CEO leaves Texas organization that detains migrant children

By NOMAAN MERCHANT

**HOUSTON (AP)** — The nation's largest provider of facilities for detaining migrant children on behalf of the Trump administration said Monday that its founder and CEO is stepping down after months of criticism.

Southwest Key Programs said in a statement that Juan Sanchez will retire.

The Austin, Texas-based nonprofit collects hundreds of millions of dollars through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to run facilities along the southern border.

It came under fire as the Trump administration detained more immigrants and conducted large-scale separations of families last year, pushing children into the organization's facilities without their parents' consent. At least one facility in South Texas served as a "tender-age" shelter for toddlers with cribs and other supplies.

According to government data obtained exclusively last year by The Associated Press, the number of children held by Southwest Key grew to around 5,000 at a time last year, including around 1,400 at an old Walmart in Brownsville, Texas. Southwest Key received \$523 million in government funding from January to September.

Critics have accused Sanchez of facilitating the detention of thousands of children and questioned the



In this June 21, 2018, photo, Dr. Juan Sanchez, Founder and CEO of Southwest Key, talks about the work his institution on their Immigrant Children's Shelters in Texas, in Austin, Texas.

Associated Press

salaries Southwest Key paid him and his family. Sanchez earned \$1.5 million, according to the organization's 2017 tax filings.

The New York Times reported in December that federal prosecutors were examining Southwest Key's finances. And the Arizona Republic published videos from mid-September in which staffers pushed and shoved children in their care. The organiza-

tion closed two facilities and paid a fine in Arizona after an investigation over whether it conducted staff background checks.

Sanchez has pushed back against public criticism by saying that Southwest Key performs a necessary task in taking in children detained by the government. "Somebody has to take care of them," he told AP in June.

Unlike the Border Patrol's fa-

cilities where migrants are usually first detained, Southwest Key's facilities typically have dormitory-style sleeping areas, classrooms, and playgrounds. Children remain at the facilities until the government can place them in foster care or with an adult sponsor, typically a relative. The Department of Health and Human Services said the average stay for children in government facilities was 60 days.

Southwest Key thanked Sanchez and said "it's time

to begin a new chapter." Chief Operating Officer Joella Brooks will serve as interim CEO.

Sanchez said in the statement that the organization "would benefit from a fresh perspective and new leadership."

"Widespread misunderstanding of our business and unfair criticism of our people has become a distraction our employees do not deserve," Sanchez said. "It's time for new beginnings." □

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# North Carolina sued again over transgender rights



Lambda Legal lawyer Taylor Brown addresses reporters to announce a lawsuit on Monday, March 11, 2019, in Durham, North Carolina, arguing that North Carolina's state health plan for state employees discriminates by not covering hormone treatment and surgery for transgender people.

Associated Press

**DURHAM, N.C. (AP)** — North Carolina is being sued again over its treatment of transgender people, as state employees argue that their health plan violated federal law by dropping coverage of medically necessary procedures. The new lawsuit comes amid unresolved litigation over North Carolina's so-called bathroom bill and the law that replaced it. The lawsuit filed Monday argues the health plan for state employees violates federal health and education laws, as well as constitutional rights, by refusing to pay for hormone treatments and surgeries that it once covered. The treatments prescribed by doctors to treat gender dysphoria are described as life-saving by five current or former state employees, along with two transgender dependents, who are suing. "We have to think of it like any medical condition that is treated by a doctor and is diagnosed," said Taylor Brown, the Lambda

Legal lawyer leading the case, who is a transgender woman. "To have to live in a world that perceives you, and that assigns you, as something that you're not ... It can make life unlivable for many people. And that's why we see such high suicide rates in the transgender community." The state employee health plan, which provides benefits for approximately 720,000 people, had covered the transition procedures for transgender people for the year 2017. But the lawsuit said coverage was excluded from the plan for the years after that under Republican State Treasurer Dale Folwell, who took office in 2017. A spokesman for Folwell, Frank Lester, said in an email that a previous treasurer had voted with the health plan's board to cover the procedures for a year, but that no action was taken to extend the coverage under Folwell. Lester declined to comment further on the lawsuit, saying the office generally doesn't discuss

pending litigation. The plaintiffs say the exclusion of coverage for transition-related treatments violates the federal Title IX education law, the constitution's equal-protection clause and the federal Affordable Care Act. "Transgender people are treated differently," Brown said in an interview. "They're not getting equal pay, in effect, for equal work." The Associated Press reviewed the lawsuit and was granted exclusive interviews with the plaintiffs before the litigation was announced at a news conference in Durham. In similar cases, Lambda Legal sued Alaska on behalf of a legislative librarian and separately won a legal settlement for a New York county employee, both of whom were denied coverage for hormone therapy or surgery. The North Carolina lawsuit comes amid a separate three-year legal fight over North Carolina's 2016 "bathroom bill," which in many public buildings re-

quired transgender people to use restrooms matching their birth certificates. While that requirement was later rescinded, a replacement law halts new local antidiscrimination ordinances until 2020. Last year, a federal judge allowed a lawsuit to move forward challenging the replacement law's moratorium on new local measures to protect LGBT residents. Monday's lawsuit is another sign of the difficulties still faced by transgender residents. Among them is 16-year-old Connor Thonen-Fleck, whose family is saving for chest surgery to affirm his masculine identity that could cost more than \$10,000 because it's not covered by insurance for his parents, both state university employees. "I think we're mostly saved up now," Connor said in an interview. "Obviously if we weren't saving up, I would have had it way sooner." From an early age, Connor said he felt uncomfortable in the female gender assigned at birth, and by puberty a feeling of detach-

ment from his own body settled in. "I used to not be able to take showers very often because I couldn't stand to look at this body," he said. He started seeing a therapist as a high school freshman and soon was diagnosed with gender dysphoria. Under medical supervision, he began socially transitioning to life as a male before starting hormone treatments. Because the health plan denies coverage for a testosterone prescription, his parents must pay out of pocket. Surgery to give him a more typical male chest would be the next step. Still, his mother says, the treatment is "not optional for us," and every expense has been worth it. Remembering his Jan. 2, 2018, appointment with an endocrinologist to set the stage for his testosterone treatments, she said: "That may have been more of a special day than the day he was born. It was so wonderful to see him get what he needed." □





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Anne Arundel County State's Attorney Anne Colt Leitess talks to reporters after a court hearing on Monday, March 11, 2019, in Annapolis, Md.

Associated Press

## Judge denies defense request in newspaper shooting case

By BRIAN WITTE  
Associated Press

**ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP)** — The judge in a case against a man accused of killing five people at a Maryland newspaper office ruled Monday that prosecutors have provided "significantly more" information about the charges to defense attorneys than the law requires. Lawyers for Jarrod Ramos asked Anne Arundel County Circuit Judge Laura Ripken last month to require prosecutors to give them more details about the charges, as they weigh changing their client's plea to not criminally responsible by reason of insanity. His attorneys currently have a Friday deadline to change the plea from not guilty. "The judge's ruling was that the state complied with the law and provided suf-

ficient evidence for the defense to prepare for court," said Anne Arundel County State's Attorney Anne Colt Leitess, speaking with reporters outside the courthouse in Annapolis. William Davis, an attorney for Ramos, declined to comment after a brief court hearing. Ramos, with long hair and a beard, attended the hearing. A trial is currently scheduled for June. A scheduling conference has been set for March 28 "to determine whether it's appropriate to proceed in June," Leitess said. Prosecutors are seeking life in prison without possibility of parole. Letters that threatened the newsroom and were signed with Ramos' name were received by area judges and an attorney in the days following the June 28 attack. □

## Feds accuse vice officer of forcing women into sex

By ANDREW WELSH-HUGGINS  
Associated Press

**COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)** — A longtime police officer forced women to have sex with him under threat of an arrest, pressured others to help cover up crimes, and lied to federal investigators when he said he'd never had sex with prostitutes, according to charges unveiled Monday. Columbus vice squad Officer Andrew Mitchell, 55, was arrested Monday and faces a detention hearing this week. He is charged with witness tampering, obstruction of justice, making a false statement to federal investigators, and deprivation of rights under color of law, the language used to describe crimes committed by police officers while on duty. A federal indictment accused Mitchell, a 30-year veteran, of arresting two different women and forcing them to have sex before he would release them. Later, during the federal investigation, Mitchell lied when he told the FBI he'd never had sex with a prostitute, since Mitchell knew "he has had sex with numerous prostitutes, including having paid women money for sex," according to the indictment. Committing the alleged crimes while on duty is "a nightmarish breach of trust," said Ben Glassman, the U.S. attorney for the southern half of Ohio.

"We rely on the police to serve and protect us, and when you have a police officer who commits a crime, that is a very serious breach of trust," he said. Police officers take an oath to the constitution and promise to obey federal, state and local laws, said Thomas Quinlan, interim Columbus police chief. "The community has every right to be disgusted by the news, as well as everyone who wears this badge," he said. Mitchell plans to fight the charges and enter a not guilty plea, his attorney said Monday. "These allegations are unfounded, and my client is going to exercise his right to a jury trial in the federal system," Collins said. His understanding, he said, is that the alleged victims named in the indictment were prostitutes. Mitchell has also been investigated by state authorities after police said he fatally shot a woman who stabbed him in the hand while sitting in his unmarked police car. Donna Castleberry, 23, had struggled with drugs and was likely working the streets as a prostitute, her family has said. She left behind two young daughters. "Our family has been asking questions for a long time," said Mary Laile, a cousin to Castleberry. "We miss her everyday and days like today feel like a success, but then we remember that we



This undated photo provided by the Department of Justice shows Columbus vice squad Officer Andrew Mitchell.

Associated Press

still do not have Donna with us, so it's hard to really view it as a successful day." Franklin County prosecutor Ron O'Brien said Monday he expects to take that case to a grand jury soon. Mitchell plans to appear before the grand jury, Mitchell said, "and testify truthfully and indicate as to why it was a good use of force." The charges were the latest black eye for the vice squad, which has also been under scrutiny since last year's arrest of porn actress Stormy Daniels. Charges were dropped hours later. Earlier this year, Daniels sued several Columbus police officers for \$2 million over that arrest. Daniels' federal defamation lawsuit alleges that officers conspired to retaliate against her because of her claims she had sex with Donald Trump before he became president. □



# UK says last-ditch Brexit talks win legally binding changes

By JILL LAWLESS

RAF CASERT

Associated Press

**LONDON (AP)** — The British government said Monday that frenzied last-minute diplomacy had won "legally binding changes" to overcome a roadblock in its divorce deal with the European Union, hours before Parliament was due to decide the fate of Prime Minister Theresa May's hard-won agreement — and of Britain's departure from the EU. On the eve of Tuesday's vote, May flew to the French city of Strasbourg, where EU legislators were meeting, for nighttime talks with European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker. The prime minister was seeking revisions, guarantees or other changes to persuade reluctant British legislators to back her withdrawal agreement with the EU, which they resoundingly rejected in January.

Late Monday, Cabinet Office Minister David Lidington announced in the House of Commons that the two sides had agreed on "legally binding changes" to a portion of the deal relating to the Irish border. He said the changes should overcome lawmakers' qualms about a mechanism in the deal designed to keep an open border between Britain's Northern Ireland and EU member Ireland. The mechanism, known as the backstop, is a



Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May speaks during Prime Minister's Questions in the House of Commons, London, Wednesday March 6, 2019.

Associated Press

safeguard that would keep the U.K. in a customs union with the EU until a permanent new trading relationship is in place.

Brexit-supporting lawmakers in Britain fear the backstop could be used to bind the country to EU regulations indefinitely.

Lidington said the new guarantee "provides confirmation that the EU cannot try to trap the U.K. in the backstop indefinitely."

Lidington said lawmakers faced "a fundamental choice ... to vote for the improved deal or to plunge this country into a political crisis."

Pro-Brexit lawmakers said they would read the fine print before deciding how to vote on Tuesday.

Lidington spoke before May and Juncker emerged from their talks. Earlier, Juncker kissed May twice on the cheeks when she arrived at the commission's headquarters in the European Parliament building. EU Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier kissed her hand before they went inside for talks.

When negotiations between the EU and the British government were at a low ebb, Juncker shook the British leader's hand before a similar meeting.

The EU is unwilling to reopen an agreement it spent a year and a half negotiating, while British legislators remain split over whether to leave the bloc and, if so, on what terms.

Britain is due to pull out of the EU in less than three weeks, on March 29, but the government has not been able to win parliamentary approval for its agreement with the bloc on withdrawal terms and future relations. The impasse has raised fears of a chaotic "no-deal" Brexit that could mean major disruption for businesses and people in Britain and the 27 remaining EU countries.

"This is a government in chaos, with a country in chaos because of this mess," Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn said.

May has staked her political reputation on securing an exit deal with the EU and is under mounting pressure to quit if it is de-

feated again. She survived a bid to oust her through a no-confidence vote in December. As a result, she cannot be forced from office for a year.

The EU is frustrated at what it sees as the inability of Britain's weak and divided government to lay out a clear vision for Brexit. It is irritated, too, that Britain is seeking changes to an agreement that May herself helped negotiate.

May has been working frantically to save her deal, speaking by phone to eight EU national leaders since Friday, including French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

Merkel said Monday that Juncker and Barnier had made "a multitude of suggestions" over the weekend on the backstop.

"I think that an important offer has again been made to Britain, and now it is of course for Britain to respond to these offers," she said.

If Parliament throws out May's deal again on Tuesday, lawmakers will vote over the following two days on whether to leave the EU without an agreement — an idea likely to be rejected — or to ask the EU to delay Brexit beyond the scheduled March 29 departure date.

May warned last week that any delay could mean "we may never leave the EU at all." □

## Ex-VP of Congo seeks damages over war crime convictions



In this file photo dated Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2018, former Congolese Vice President Jean-Pierre Bemba poses for a photograph in Waterloo, Belgium.

Associated Press

By MIKE CORDER

Associated Press

**THE HAGUE, Netherlands**

**(AP)** — A former vice president of Congo who was acquitted on appeal of war crimes in Central African Republic is seeking millions of euros (dollars) in compensation from the International Criminal Court, his lawyers said Monday.

Lawyers for Jean-Pierre Bemba last week filed an application asking judges at the global court to award Bemba a total of nearly 69 million euros (\$77 million) for what they called a miscarriage of justice.

The sum includes damages for the decade Bemba spent in jail and compensation for legal costs and losses in the value of assets frozen by the court, the lawyers said.

"Mr. Bemba's property was left over a 10-year period to devalue, dissipate, or simply rot," they said in a statement.







Among the devalued assets the lawyers listed was a Boeing 727 jetliner, a plane built from the 1960s to 1980s for commercial passenger flights. Bemba's aircraft was impounded in Portugal in 2008.

When he tried to get it back to help pay legal bills, "he was informed that the prosecution was unable to find the keys," his lawyers said.

"The plane is now scrap. It still stands stranded on the tarmac at Faro Airport," Bemba's legal team said.

Bemba, a former military commander in Congo, was convicted in 2016 on two counts of crimes against humanity and three counts of war crimes for a campaign of murder, rape and pillaging by his troops in Central African Republic during 2002-2003. □



<p><b>ARUBA TOPHOMES</b> REAL ESTATE</p> <p>A.A.R. MEMBER</p> <p>Seroe Blanco 20 <b>Ph. 297 588 9937</b> Cell. 297 5938867 alex@arubatophomes.com www.arubatophomes.com</p> <p>REAL PEOPLE * REAL SERVICE * REAL ESTATE</p>	<p><b>PIEDRA PLAAT 5 E</b></p>  <p><b>SOLD</b></p> <p>3 Bed - 2 Bath, Gourmet Kitchen Brand New, Central Location land: 475 m² / 5,113 Ft² Home: 180 m² / 1,937 Ft² <b>Afl 480.000 \$ 270.000</b></p>	<p><b>ROOI SANTO</b></p>  <p>Unique!!!! Unique!!!! Private Property LAND Location, Location, Location!!! 1452 m² / 15,630 Ft² <b>Afl 516.912 \$ 290.400</b></p>	<p><b>SEROE BLANCO 319</b></p>  <p><b>REDUCED</b></p> <p>3 Bed - 2 Bath, Corner Plot Brand New, Central Location land: 796 m² / 8,568 Ft² Home: 177 m² / 1,905 Ft² <b>Afl 533.000 \$ 299.000</b></p>	<p><b>LAS ROCAS 14 D</b></p>  <p><b>SOLD</b></p> <p>3 Bed - 2 Bath, Condominium Tierra del Sol Golf Club Garage, Fully Furnished Home: 140 m² / 1,507 Ft² <b>Afl 584.000 \$ 328.000</b></p>
<p><b>TANQUI LEENDERT 139</b></p>  <p>4 Bed - 3 Bath, Fully Furnished Full renewed, Gourmet Kitchen land: 414 m² / 4,456 Ft² Home: 230 m² / 2,476 Ft² <b>Afl 668.000 \$ 375.000</b></p>	<p><b>PIEDRA PLAAT 5 K</b></p>  <p>3 Bed - 2 Bath, Swimming-pool New, Garage, Fully Furnished land: 472 m² / 5,081 Ft² Home: 140 m² / 1,507 Ft² <b>Afl 693.000 \$ 389.000</b></p>	<p><b>PALM BEACH 320</b></p>  <p>4 Bed - 3 Bath, w/guest casita Hotel area, Fully Furnished land: 520 m² / 5,597 Ft² Home: 250 m² / 2,691 Ft² <b>Afl 801.000 \$ 450.000</b></p>	<p><b>PARADERA 179 G</b></p>  <p>3 Houses in One, over 489m² of Land H.1: 2Bed - 2Bath; 130m²/1400Ft² H.2: 2Bed - 2Bath; 103m²/1109Ft² H.3: 2Bed - 2Bath; 130m²/1400Ft² <b>Afl 850.000 \$ 478.000</b></p>	<p><b>LAS CAMPEONAS 1</b></p>  <p><b>SOLD</b></p> <p>3 Bed - 3 Bath, Swimming-pool Tierra del Sol, Garage, Furnished land: 627 m² / 6,749 Ft² Home: 180 m² / 1,937 Ft² <b>Afl 935.000 \$ 525.000</b></p>

## Algeria's president abandons bid for 5th term amid protests

By AOMAR OUALI

**ALGIERS, Algeria (AP)** — Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika bowed to unprecedented public protests Monday and promised not to seek a fifth term after 20 years in power.

In a letter to the nation released by state news agency APS, the ailing leader also said the presidential election scheduled for April 18 would be postponed. He promised to establish a panel to plan a rescheduled vote.

Bouteflika, who is 82, has barely been seen in public since a 2013 stroke. His decision to run again set off protests in February and have expanded to include broader complaints about corruption and heavy-handed security policies. The president returned Sunday from two weeks in a Geneva hospital, but his health problems and overall condition remain unclear.

Celebrations popped up instead of protests on the streets of the capital, Algiers, at the news the president had dropped his re-election bid. Car horns rang out while people waved Algerian flags and sang the national anthem. Bouteflika did not give a date or timeline for the delayed election. He said in his Monday letter that the



Algerian people display the national flag as they celebrate in the streets of Algiers, after President Abdelaziz Bouteflika announced that he is delaying the April 18 election and won't seek another term, Monday, March 11, 2019.

Associated Press

"national conference" he would task with planning the vote also would be responsible for drafting a new constitution for Algeria. He said he would name an interim government as well. The changes were put in motion within hours. Nouredine Bedoui, a Bouteflika loyalist and the current interior minister, was made prime minister and charged with forming the new administration, according to Algerian state

news agency APS. Critics fear the moves could pave the way for the president to install a hand-picked successor. A wily political survivor, Bouteflika fought in Algeria's independence war against French forces and has played a role in Algeria's major developments for the past half-century. He became president in 1999 and reconciled a nation riven by a deadly Islamic insurgency, but ques-

tions swirl over whether he is really running the country today.

The recent protests surprised Algeria's opaque leadership and freed the country's people, long fearful of a watchful security apparatus, to openly criticize the president. Algerians also expressed anger over corruption that put their country's oil and gas riches in the hands of a few while millions of young people struggle to find jobs.

The unprecedented citizens' revolt drew millions into the streets of cities across the country to demand that Bouteflika abandon his candidacy.

On Monday, Algerian teenagers and lawyers held protests, and workers held scattered walkouts, as the tense nation waited to see what concessions Bouteflika would give, if any.

His capitulation on a re-election bid likely will assuage some concerns.

Security was high Monday in the capital of Algiers, where some businesses were shuttered by a second day of strikes. Other stores and administrative offices remained open.

Middle school and high school students held protests in several towns, according to local media. Education Minister Nouria Benghabrit appealed on her Facebook page for protesters to "leave schools out of political turbulence" shaking the country.

Meanwhile, lawyers in black robes gathered in front of courthouses to join calls for Bouteflika to abandon his bid for re-election. Some judges joined a lawyers' protest in the city of Bedjaia.

Judges are normally banned from publicly demonstrating, as are police officers and soldiers. □



# Iran's Rouhani seeks to boost ties on first visit to Baghdad

**By QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA**  
**BAGHDAD (AP)** — Iranian President Hassan Rouhani was in Baghdad on Monday, making his first official visit to the nation that Tehran once fought a bloody war against and later backed in the battle with the Islamic State group. Since Rouhani's election in 2013, Iraq has relied on Iranian paramilitary support to fight IS, following the militant group's capture of the Iraqi city of Mosul and other territory in both Iraq and Syria.

Now with the militants facing a final territorial defeat in the Syrian village of Baghouz, Iran is looking for Iraq's continued support as it faces a maximalist pressure campaign by President Donald Trump after his decision to withdraw America from Tehran's nuclear deal with world powers.

Rouhani, who is accompanied on the three-day visit by a high-ranking political and economic delegation, was received by an honor guard on landing in Baghdad, where he was welcomed by Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohammed Ali Al-Hakim.

Rouhani then visited the shrine of Imam Kadhim, the seventh of 12 clerics revered by Shiites worldwide. Rouhani, a Shiite cleric him-



Iraqi President Barham Salih, right, walks with visiting Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, before their meeting at Salam Palace in Baghdad, Iraq, Monday, March 11, 2019.

Associated Press

self, paused to reach out and touch the gate surrounding the imam's tomb. He then met President Barham Salih and spoke to journalists, telling them that a "stable Iraq will lead to stability in the entire region."

"We want to be united countries, not against others, but attracting others to our unity," Rouhani said. For his part, Salih said Baghdad's central location made it crucial to resolving regional issues. He thanked

Iran for its support during Iraq's fight against IS.

"The victory that was achieved against IS group in Iraq was an important and huge victory, but incomplete as the eradication of that sick, deviated line of thought and extremism require more sustainable regional efforts and cooperation," Salih said. Rouhani was to later meet Prime Minister Abel Abdul-Mehdi. He plans on meeting with other politicians and Shiite leaders during

his visit.

Rouhani's visit underscores how much has changed since the 1980s, when Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein invaded Iran, sparking an eight-year war that killed an estimated 1 million people. After the 2003 U.S.-led invasion of Iraq toppled Saddam, Iran began a campaign of backing militants who targeted American forces in Iraq. Tehran also made political connections with Iraq's Shiite leaders, who had been

persecuted by Saddam's government. Iran's former hard-line President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad became the first Iranian president to visit Iraq on a trip in 2008.

Iraq and Iran share a 1,400-kilometer-long (870 miles) border. Trump made a snap December trip to Iraq and made comments that U.S. forces should stay in Iraq to keep an eye on Iran, something dismissed by both Iran and Iraqi leaders, whom Trump did not meet on the visit.

Speaking at Tehran's Mehrabad Airport before leaving for Iraq, Rouhani's official website quoted him as saying the trip's goal was "deepening bilateral relations."

"Relations between Iran and Iraq are special," Rouhani was quoted as saying. "In the recent years, the people of Iran have passed a test with pride, and that is wherever the peoples of the region faced a problem and asked for the help of the Iranian nation and government, we rushed to help them."

Rouhani, who had visited Iraq privately before becoming president, had planned an official visit in 2016 but it was cancelled over unspecified "executive" problems. □

## US-backed fighters make limited advances against IS in Syria



In this Sunday, March 10, 2019 photo, U.S.-backed Syrian forces stand guard as civilians wounded by airstrikes, during an offensive on the last area held by Islamic State group extremists in Syria's eastern Deir el-Zour province near the Iraqi border, outside of Baghouz, Syria.

Associated Press

By PHILIP ISSA  
Associated Press

**BAGHOUZ, Syria (AP)** — U.S.-backed Syrian forces

made slow advances into the edge of the last village held by the Islamic State group, battling militants holed up in underground tunnels, a spokesman for the force said Monday. The battle opened Sunday evening with large explosions and mushroom clouds rising into the air over Baghouz, on the Euphrates River in eastern Syria, as the Syrian Democratic Forces battered the village with artillery and gunfire, hitting an IS ammunition dump.

On Monday morning, the thuds of renewed artillery and heavy weapons fire could be heard. An airstrike hit the IS-held pocket around noon. Some 500 IS fighters are

believed to be still in the territory, along with possibly 3,000 to 4,000 civilians, including women and children — mainly family members who remained after thousands of civilians streamed out of Baghouz in past week during pauses in the fighting.

Mustafa Bali of the Kurdish-led SDF told The Associated Press that the forces were moving cautiously on the ground, adding that the militants were dug in and hiding into tunnels. The area is also believed to be laced with land mines and booby traps.

"If as we advance, we notice there are civilians, we will do all we can to evacuate them from the battle-

field," Bali said. He said so far there had been no SDF casualties.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a war monitor, said SDF fighters captured seven IS gunmen in Baghouz since Sunday.

A senior U.S. defense official said in Washington on Friday that it would not be a surprise, based on current conditions, if it took another couple of weeks to finish "mopping up" the IS enclave. The capture of Baghouz would be a milestone in the devastating four-year campaign to defeat the group's so-called "caliphate" that once covered a vast territory straddling both Syria and Iraq. □





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## Indonesian woman freed 2 years after killing of Kim Jong Nam

By EILEEN NG

SHAH ALAM, Malaysia (AP)

— One of two women accused of killing North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's half brother by smearing VX nerve agent on his face was freed after two years of detention Monday when Malaysian prosecutors unexpectedly dropped the murder charge against her. Indonesian Siti Aisyah and her Vietnamese co-defendant, Doan Thi Huong, have said they thought they were taking part in a prank for a TV show.

Prosecutors did not give any reason for the remarkable retreat in their case against Aisyah in the killing of Kim Jong Nam at a busy Kuala Lumpur airport terminal.

Indonesia's government had lobbied repeatedly for her release. Vietnam has pushed less hard on behalf of Huong, and recently hosted leader Kim Jong Un for an official visit and a summit with President Don-



Indonesian Siti Aisyah, left, smiles with lawyer Gooi Soon Seng after a press conference at Indonesian Embassy in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Monday, March 11, 2019.

Associated Press

ald Trump.

Aisyah cried and hugged Huong before leaving the courtroom and being ushered away in an Indonesian Embassy car. She told reporters that she had only learned Monday morning that she would be freed.

She flew back to Jakarta, Indonesia's capital, later Monday and thanked the

president and other officials for their help.

"I feel happy, very happy that I cannot express in words," she told reporters at Jakarta's airport. "After this I just want to gather with my family."

Huong, who remains on trial, was distraught.

"I am in shock. My mind is blank," she told reporters

after Aisyah left.

The two women had been the only suspects in custody after four North Korean suspects fled the country the morning of Feb. 13, 2017, when Kim Jong Nam was killed.

The trial is to resume Thursday, and prosecutors are expected to reply to a request by Huong's lawyers for the government to withdraw the murder charge against her as well.

The High Court judge discharged Aisyah without an acquittal on Monday after prosecutors applied to drop the murder charge against her.

Prosecutor Iskandar Ahmad said that means Aisyah can be charged again if there is fresh evidence, but there are no such plans now.

Aisyah's release comes just a month before Indonesia's general election and is seen as a boost to President Joko Widodo, who is seeking re-election.

Aisyah, surrounded by

government officials and a mob of reporters at Jakarta's airport, struggled for words as journalists shouted questions. After a prompt from Indonesia's law and human rights minister, she thanked the president and Cabinet ministers.

Indonesia's government said its continued high-level lobbying had resulted in Aisyah's release. Its foreign ministry said in a statement that she was "deceived and did not realize at all that she was being manipulated by North Korean intelligence."

It said Aisyah, a migrant worker, never had any intention of killing Kim.

The ministry said that over the past two years, Aisyah's plight was raised in "every bilateral Indonesia-Malaysia meeting," including at the presidential level, the vice presidential level and in regular meetings of the foreign minister and other ministers with their Malaysian counterparts. □

## Mother detained after neglected child found in Moscow

Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — A 5-year-old girl who was left alone in a Moscow apartment cluttered with junk for several days is being treated in intensive care, Russian officials said on Monday.

The Investigative Committee, Russia's main investigative body, has detained the girl's mother and has launched a criminal inquiry into conspiracy to murder. They gave no information about the girl's condition.

Investigators, who are also probing the actions of police and social workers, said the 47-year-old woman left her daughter for several days and that water and electricity in the apartment

had been cut off due to unpaid debts.

Emergency workers on Sunday removed the child from the apartment, which was cluttered with what appeared to be trash bags and plastic bottles, according to the investigators' footage. The furniture in the apartment looked smashed and the walls and the ceiling splattered with dirt or paint.

The ombudswoman for children's rights in Russia said the girl, identified as Lyuba, does not appear to be able to speak.

"Water and electricity had been cut off in the apartment, and it's horrifying to imagine what would have

happened to the child if no one had reacted and if the mother did not show up," Anna Kuznetsova said in comments to Russian news agencies.

The mother said in questioning that she had to leave the child alone for "short periods" to go to work, the Investigative Committee said.

Neighbors had reportedly complained about the child crying and the stench coming from the apartment.

But police officers had initially refused to force their way in. Another police squad called emergency services a few days later to get the door down.



This photo taken from video made available by The Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation on Sunday, March 10, 2019 shows a Moscow apartment where a neglected five-year-old girl was living.

Associated Press

Neighbors interviewed by Russian state television said the girl's mother kept

to herself and that her behavior did not arouse any suspicion. □



# At hearing, Amazon tribe accuses Brazil army of atrocities

By MAURICIO SAVARESE

Associated Press

**WAIMIRI-ATROARI RESERVE, Brazil (AP)** — First the helicopters arrived, dropping chemical bombs. Then came armed men in green uniforms who proceeded to slaughter members of an Amazon tribe to make way for a major road.

Bare Bernaldo Waimiri, at the time a teenage member of the Waimiri-Atroari tribe deep in Brazil's Amazon, said the day of that attack, many years ago, was the last he saw his family alive.

Now elderly, Bernaldo described the horrific scene last week during a historic hearing that put a spotlight on Brazil's military, which denies attacking the tribe. His testimony underscored the constant tension between development and conservation in Latin America's largest nation and comes as far-right President Jair Bolsonaro gives a prominent role to the military in his government and ends new indigenous land demarcations in the Amazon.

"I lost my father, my mother, my sister and my brother," Bernaldo said in a very low voice, wearing shorts and tapping his flip-flops on the ground as two translators put his words into Portuguese. The hearing took place in a thatched, cone-shaped hut where the Waimiri-Atroari normally hold colorful festivities and long storytelling sessions. For one day last week, it transformed into a gloomy courthouse where six elders told a judge how over many years the 1964-1985 military dictatorship tried to eradicate them with arms, bombs and chemicals. The Associated Press and one local newspaper were the only media allowed to attend the hearing. Non-tribal members in general are usually forbidden to enter the sprawling reserve that is the size of Israel and straddles the states of Amazonas and Roraima.

Tribe members and prosecutors said it marked the first time a judge was allowed on Waimiri-Atroari



Waimiri-Atroari elders attend a hearing about alleged crimes committed by the Brazilian dictatorship in the 1970s inside a traditional "maloca" indigenous hut on the Waimiri-Atroari reserve in Brazil's Amazon state.

Associated Press

lands to hear witnesses tell of several alleged attacks over the years. Leaders said their aim was to deal with the past and avoid future incursions.

"To turn this page, we all have to read the book," tribal leader Mario Parwe Atroari said.

Most indigenous tribes that allege atrocities during the dictatorship are reluctant to give a full accounting of incidents in urban courthouses because they don't trust non-indigenous peoples. Some also fear being prosecuted for their own attacks against state agents and missionaries.

While tribesmen nodded during Bernaldo's testimony, a half-dozen military personnel in uniform stood in silence. Retired Col. Hiram Reis e Silva, dressed in a white-collared shirt and jeans, shook his head as the witnesses spoke. Reis e Silva, who said he worked near the reserve after 1982, was at the hearing to represent the military.

"My version of the story is very different," Reis e Silva told the AP. "There are some exaggerations. We hope truth is re-established."

"I also have several witnesses who are the pioneers of the highway and counter everything (the tribe members say)," Reis e Silva added, though when asked to share contacts with any

such person he declined to.

Before ruling, federal judge Raffaella Cassia de Sousa was expected to wait for forensics, which could include a determination of what chemical may have been used in the bombings witnesses described, and possibly more testimony and pieces of evidence. There is no final date for a decision.

Federal prosecutors, who accuse the Brazilian state of genocide in their civil suit, said hundreds, if not thousands, of tribe members died between 1968 and 1977, when highway BR-174 was built. The deaths either happened by military strikes or because of diseases that came after the forceful construction of the road through the reserve, prosecutors said.

The witnesses said they don't know the dates of the alleged attacks. The Waimiri-Atroari do not measure time in months and years, and instead talk of events in relation to their phase in life.

Prosecutors said they believe that the attack Bernaldo witnessed took place after 1974, the year the aggressions intensified. The massacre he saw was one of numerous attacks during the construction of a portion of the road that connects the cities of Manaus

and Boa Vista, according to prosecutors and tribesmen testifying.

All six tribe members testifying said the aggressions came from the Brazilian army while it oversaw the construction of 75 miles (120 kilometers) across the Waimiri-Atroari reserve.

At the time, military leaders said the tribe was impeding government employees from building the road. However, the military has never acknowledged a role in attacking the tribe.

"Documents of that time show the military dictatorship considered the indigenous a hurdle to development and that their presence in areas of government interest could not stop construction works," said journalist Rubens Valente, who attended the hearing and is the author of a book on the relationship between Brazil's authoritarian regime and indigenous tribes.

During last week's hearing, the government's lawyers suggested in their questions that miners or local criminals were behind the attacks, assertions that tribal members rejected.

In explaining their own use of violence, Waimiri-Atroari said they were just defending their territory. According to Valente's book, which prosecutors cite, at least 26 people, including construc-

tion workers, government liaisons with indigenous groups and members of religious missions, were killed during the construction of the road.

Compared to South American countries like Chile and Argentina, Brazil has done little to uncover atrocities at the hands of the military, particularly against indigenous peoples.

The allegations of the Waimiri-Atroari pose a challenge to Brazil's armed forces, who say their regime only cracked down on adversaries that pushed for a socialist revolution.

Slender and low-voiced Dawuna Elzo Atroari said he witnessed a blitzkrieg style attack against the tribe in a different incident than the one Bernaldo described.

"Before this road we lived well and in peace, we were healthy," he said, his hands shaking. "After the road, people died and we were threatened."

"I had a gun pointed to my ear," he recounted.

Wildlife is abundant in the region, with sloths, monkeys and jaguars frequently appearing. Bayous filled with fly-attracting pink flowers can be seen from the road. Not far from it, the trees become leafier and taller.

The Waimiri-Atroari close off the road with a massive chain each day at 6 p.m. so as to protect wildlife and the tribe itself. It only reopens at 6 a.m.

The testimony of the elders, all youngsters during the construction of the road, are key in the suit demanding the state pay the tribe \$13 million in damages, issue an official apology in a ceremony on Waimiri-Atroari land, build a museum to remember the atrocities and mention human rights violations against them in public school books.

In 2014, a Brazilian truth commission said more than 8,000 members of indigenous tribes could have been killed at the hands of authoritarian regimes between 1946 and 1988, the vast majority during the 1964-1985 dictatorship. □



LOCAL



## Biggest volunteer event on Aruba is on: Do What Needs To Be Done

ORANJESTAD – The beautiful white-sanded beaches, the amazing luxurious resorts and the mouth-watering choice of restaurant dishes are a huge attraction of Aruba that make for a fantastic vacation. If you would like to add a little local connection to that, this weekend is yours. The biggest volunteer event ARUBA DOET will take place Friday and Saturday. You are most welcome to join and roll up your sleeves together with the locals to create some happiness on One Happy Island .... Just by doing.

Renovating, building, cleaning, organizing and gardening are some of the key words that apply to the jobs to be done. Schools, foundations, sport organizations ... they are the ones being helped by this initiative and they really need it. This is a weekend of social cohesion and a contribution to the social community of the island. Above all it is fun too as there are snacks and drinks during well-deserved breaks and the fulfilling feeling that you achieved something in the end by supporting the island's people.

### Heart & Soul

Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> and Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> of March 2019, CEDE Aruba in cooperation with the OranjeFonds will be organizing ARUBA DOET, the biggest volunteer event on Aruba. The Netherlands and five Caribbean islands highlight these volunteer initiatives and they stimulate everyone to donate their time to help out the people who need it. This helps everyone. Volunteers are the heart and soul of many community organizations. Through ARUBA DOET the OranjeFonds and CEDE Aruba emphasize how important actively engaged citizens as well as visitors are for the community and for social organizations. What's also important, ARUBA DOET helps to improve the image of volunteering and shows how much fun it can be. In Aruba more than 4,000 volunteers were active at 207 jobs in 2018, a record! Obviously the aim is even higher this year, so register your project or sign up as a volunteer now you still can.

### OranjeFonds

The event ARUBA DOET started in 2013 on the initiative of the OranjeFonds. Under the names NLdoet (The Netherlands), ARUBA DOET (Aruba), CURA DOET (Curaçao), BON DOET (Bonaire), STATIA DOET (Sint Eustatius) and SXM DOET (Sint Maarten), these six initiatives highlight volunteering and volunteers while encouraging everybody to roll up their sleeves for (part of) a day. With these six initiatives the OranjeFonds is organizing the biggest volunteer event in the Kingdom in cooperation with thousands of social organizations and with the support of local partners such as CEDE Aruba. The OranjeFonds is the biggest national fund in the social arena and showcases the best the Kingdom has to offer. Around €30 million is spent each year supporting organizations and initiatives that strengthen social cohesion in The Netherlands and the Caribbean part of the Kingdom. King Willem-Alexander and Queen Máxima are the official patrons of the Fund. For more information: [www.arubadoet.com](http://www.arubadoet.com). □



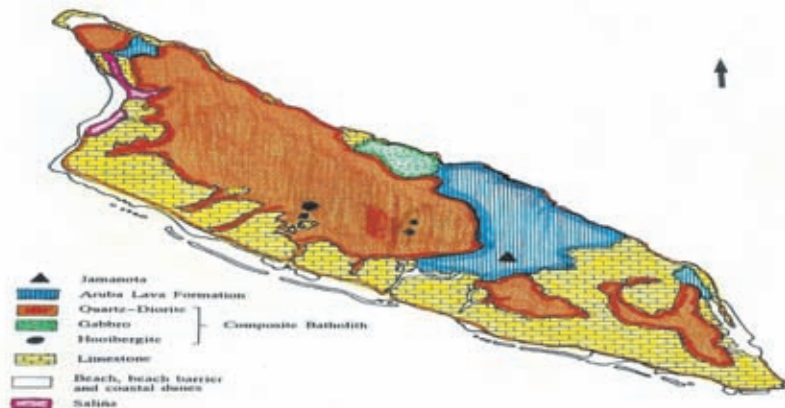


# Island Insight

*Geo insular patrimony an ancient heritage.*

## Episode IX: Landscape character

If we must define Aruba's landscape today. We can differentiate three basic geological formations. One is a hilly part, second by an undulating part and a third part consisting of limestone which embraces these two zones mentioned before and forming also the coast line.



Pic. 1: Geo map of Aruba

The central hilly part is where you can find the highest hills of the island. The highest point of the island (Jamanota 189 m) and most of the other hills (Arikok 184m) are situated in the central part of the island. This landscape is constituted of the rock unit called the Aruba Lava Formation (ALF). This rock unit has two main components, volcanic rock and metamorphic rock. The hills are made up of the resistant volcanic rocks. The most common of these rocks is diabase, a hard, black rock. The metamorphic rock, schist, is a less hard, green rock with a sheet-like structure. The parts of the ALF landscape which consist of schist are the less resistant. It is in these parts where water is transported after rainfall, forms guts or rooien. These cut across the valleys of the ALF area. Such guts are not significantly deep and the weathered material which has accumulated around them is limited. Outcrops and small hills of the ALF manifest themselves all along the northern coast of the island. This northern coast is rugged with some small bays cutting through it. The geological processes by which these rocks were created are complicated by the fact that numerous events which took place influenced these processes through the ages.

The ALF landscape seems to have had a specific function for the prehistoric inhabitants. The specific function of this landscape is reflected in the fact that both stone extraction camps can be found on, or close to this landscape. Coashiati is one of these locations, situated north of Jamanota hill and is part of the ALF landscape. Dos Playa; two beaches in Papiamentu, is made up of two bays at the northern coast.

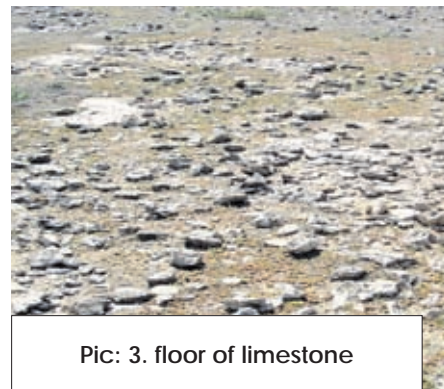
The plateau between these two bays is formed partly by the ALF with much debris of this rock unit scattered around. One small Pre-ceramic site found is called Daimari. It is situated on one of the outcrops of the ALF. No ceramic sites are found in the ALF landscape, although several



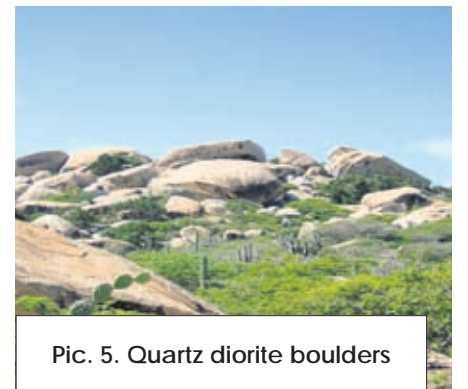
Pic 2 :Part of Aruba's North coast consisting of the ALF.



Article by Etnia Nativa  
Call us at 5922702 and book your experience  
etniana03@gmail.com  
DESIGN BY STEFFEN MAAS



Pic: 3. floor of limestone



Pic. 5. Quartz diorite boulders

like Daimari and Boca Prins are near outcrops at the northern coast. Also, some pottery has been found in the area of Arikok hill. This landscape was obviously not suitable for long-term habitation. A lack of good agricultural soil may be the reason for this. The hydrological conditions provided permanent freshwater at Fontein, where rainwater is caught by limestone and is released at the boundary of the limestone and a different rock unit.

The rocks of the Aruba Lava Formation were extensively used by the inhabitants of the prehistory. The physical characteristic of the rocks played a key role in determining the purpose for which it would be used. Diabase was used to make axes, chisels, knives and the polishers. The hardness and the homogeneous structure of the rock make it the best raw material for these artifacts available on the island. The polishers were collected at the bays on the northern coast and were then further polished by the Amerindians of the mainland to make similar artifacts. The schist was used as material to make pendants and beads; the green color was probably the determining factor. No tools of schist has been found, the sheet-like structure is a limiting factor when

making an axe or chisel. The rock will easily split along the sheet-lines. The rock type of similar beads and pendants found in the area\_ and described in the literature as greenstone\_ is often difficult to establish since the term greenstone covers a wide range of different rock types (schist, rhyolite, jade).

The quartz diorite landscape (the batholith) from the central part of Aruba towards the west and northwestern end of the island, and from the central part towards the east and south, the landscape is dominated by a rock unit which the main component is quartz diorite. The landscape here is flat to slightly undulating with quartz diorite boulders in it. This rock is black and white speckled. It is relatively hard. The typical diorite landscape is found near Santa Cruz. These are all areas with boulders and small or large patches of sand and vegetation. Places with few boulders and large areas of quartz diorite debris are found in the east in Tanki Flip, Noord, Alto Vista and in the south in Savaneta. We'll be back next week for a following episode. Now, if you've liked our stories, book your reservation for a personal Etnia Nativa experience trough etniana03@gmail.com and take Aruba home with you.□



Pic.4 : The hilly land scape



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For today's newspaper we received a great picture from

*Guido & Linda Tenuta from South Barrington, Illinois. They wrote:*

**Aruba to us is...  
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## Bohemian Restaurant: Check In Please

PALM BEACH — Avant-garde from France, nonconformist in style and ethnic in cuisine. That is what the new kid in town is about and WEDNESDAY NIGHT they even top the eclectic vibe with live Flamenco singer Angela Baidez. Bohemian Restaurant is a different swing, European flair and outside dining, a place from the same owner as the for years already successful Casa Tua restaurants. They know their dance well, but this time they lift it to a different level.



From 8 PM tomorrow night Spanish Paella and much more is on the menu, of course with pairing wines. The beautiful garden of Bohemian will be filled with lights, good food

and live music in an intimate, hip and offbeat ambiance. Catchy Rumba Gitana and dramatic Spanish ballads combine with the passionately prepared dishes to

tickle your taste buds to the max. Bohemian Restaurant is located on the corner of Barceló Resort in the center of the hi-rise frenzy. Free Parking available at the park-

ing lot in front of Barcelo Resort. Make your reservations through their website: <https://bohemiana-ruba.com>. Call them at 00 297 280 8448. Facebook: Bohemian. □

## Caribbean top-artists will exhibit at 'ARToMoNDo' and all over the Netherlands



**THE HAGUE** — Minister of St Maarten, Mr. Michael Somersall opened this exhibition of famous Caribbean artists at ARToMoNDo. After a presentation of some of the Artworks at the Cabinet of the Minister Plenipotentiary of Sint Maarten in The Hague and the first vernissage and exhibition in Delft, of some of the most famous artists from Aruba, Curaçao and Sint Maarten, the Artworks of this travelling exhibition can be admired until March 16, in ARToMoNDo, Nieuwstraat 20, in the heart of Deventer.

The exhibitors Sir Roland Richardson, Tess Verheij, Melvin Anderson, Bikkel and Gustave Nouel are among the most famous and/or internationally recognized artists from the Caribbean parts of our Kingdom. Annex is there occasion to visit an exhibition of

'Orange paintings' from GN, at Center 'De Ontmoeting', located opposite to 'ARToMoNDo', Nieuwstraat 19-21, in Deventer. The aim is that after this co-operation between well-known artists of the Overseas National parts, this initiative is extended with more artists and art disciplines. A touring exhibition throughout the Netherlands will try to open doors for this.

After a welcome by Mrs. Marianne de Bakker of 'ARToMoNDo' and Mr. Albert-Jan van Cloo of 'De Ontmoeting' and a speech by President of Foundation Orange events Apeldoorn/Dutch Orange Company BV, Mr. Simon Boon, Deputy Mayor and alderman of culture, Mr. Carlo Verhaar welcomed the delegation of Sint Maarten in Deventer. Afterwards the exhibition was officially opened by

Minister Mr. Michael Somersall, as Minister Plenipotentiary of Sint Maarten.

After March 16th, this special collection will be exhibited first in The Hague and finally in the Grote Kerk of Apeldoorn, where also the conclusion and culmination of this initiative will take place.

A possible phase 2 with traveling exhibitions throughout the Netherlands, will not focus on 'help after a hurricane', but on cultural 'cooperation' of the Caribbean Parts of the Kingdom in the Netherlands. The smallest Part of the Kingdom, Sint Maarten, could become an example on how a very negative local event can be channelled into positive events for all National parts, if the policy permits.

End 2017 Sint Maarten was hit by Hurricane Irma, the most disastrous hurricane in its history. In Apeldoorn, on Koningsdag 2018, began the 'Arts & Culture Relay' for part of the Kingdom Sint Maarten, a co-operation of Sichtung Oranjefeesten Apeldoorn/Dutch Orange Company BV with the Government of St. Maarten and some famous Caribbean



artists. This beautiful action could count on support from various authorities, of the Royal Federation of Orange associations (KBOV) and from various sponsors, including Royal Talent Foundation that donated a hefty amount of painting

materials to Saint Martin. The smallest part of our Kingdom, Sint Maarten, could probably become an example on how very negative local events can be channelled to positive events, for the whole Kingdom. □



# SPORTS



Newly appointed Real Madrid head coach Zinedine Zidane attends a press conference in Madrid, Monday March 11, 2019.

## With batteries 'recharged,' Zidane back as Real Madrid coach

By TALES AZZONI  
AP Sports Writer

**MADRID (AP)** — Real Madrid picked one of its most successful figures to try to end one of its worst crises. Zinedine Zidane is returning to coach Madrid, the club he led to three straight Champions League titles before quitting while on top nine months ago. Madrid announced Monday that Zidane accepted an offer to replace Santiago Solari and signed a contract until June 2022 to try to get the club back on track after a disastrous season.

The coaching change came less than a week after two losses to Barcelona and another to Ajax — results that eliminated the club from the Champions League and the Copa del Rey and virtually ended its hopes of winning the Spanish league.

"I'm very happy to be back home. I've recharged my batteries and now I'm ready again for the experience of being Real Madrid's coach."

Continued on Page 23

## SUNS RISE



## Suns beat Warriors for first time since 2014

Phoenix Suns guard Devin Booker (1) shoot against Golden State Warriors guard Klay Thompson (11) during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Oakland, Calif., Sunday, March 10, 2019.



# Foles to Jaguars, Collins to Washington, Brown to Oakland

By **BARRY WILNER**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Nick Foles is headed to Jacksonville, Landon Collins to Washington and Trent Brown to Oakland.

The big-money offers for NFL free agents began Monday, two days before they can sign contracts. Foles brings a Super Bowl pedigree to quarterbacking the Jaguars, and Brown has a championship ring as he moves to the Raiders' offensive line at left tackle. Safety Collins heads a few hours south from the New Jersey Meadowlands, where he could haunt his former team twice a year. All of Monday's deals were confirmed by people with knowledge of the agreements who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because nothing can be official until Wednesday.

Foles has agreed to sign a four-year, \$88 million contract with the Jaguars. The deal includes \$50.125 million guaranteed and could be worth up to \$102 million with incentives as he replaces Blake Bortles, who threw 103 touchdown passes in five seasons but was known more for inaccuracy and inconsistency that led to Jacksonville's offensive instability. Bortles is expected to be released this week before a \$1 million roster bonus comes due Sunday.

The Redskins agreed to sign the 25-year-old Collins to a six-year, \$84 million deal with \$45 million guaranteed. He led the Giants with 96 tackles last season, and his 437 since entering the NFL in 2015 are the most among safeties in that time, but the Giants opted not to give him the franchise tag. Collins fills one of Washington's biggest needs on a defense that ranked 17th in the league last season.

Brown was a real find for New England before last season, and his payday will come with the Raiders after agreeing to a four-year deal worth \$66 million. He will receive \$36.75 million guaranteed in the richest contract ever for an offensive lineman.



In this Sunday, Jan. 14, 2018 file photo, Pittsburgh Steelers running back Le'Veon Bell carries the ball against the Jacksonville Jaguars during the second half of an NFL divisional football AFC playoff game in Pittsburgh.

Associated Press

According to Pro Football Focus, Raiders tackles allowed 30 sacks in pass protection last season, most in the NFL, while Brown gave up just three in 580 pass blocking snaps.

Also Monday:

— DeSean Jackson is close to returning to Philadelphia. The Eagles have agreed to acquire the wide receiver from Tampa Bay along with a 2020 seventh-round draft pick for a sixth-round pick this year. The deal is contingent upon Jackson agreeing to a new contract. Five years ago, then-Eagles coach Chip Kelly released the three-time Pro Bowl pick following his best season.

The Eagles also have agreed on a three-year contract with defensive

tackle Malik Jackson, who spent the past three seasons with the Jaguars after playing his first four with Denver, earning one Super Bowl ring. The 28-year-old Jackson had 18 sacks in Jacksonville, including 3½ last season.

The Eagles also announced nine-time Pro Bowl left tackle Jason Peters has agreed to a new, one-year deal to return for his 16th NFL season and 11th in Philadelphia.

— Seven-time Pro Bowl linebacker Terrell Suggs is leaving the Baltimore Ravens. The 36-year-old Suggs has played all 16 of his seasons in Baltimore and said at the end of the 2018 season he wanted to spend his entire career with the Ravens. That won't happen.

— Kansas City reached agreement with safety Tyrann Mathieu on a \$42 million, three-year deal. The 26-year-old Mathieu was selected by Arizona in the third round of the 2013 draft after a standout career at LSU. He showed glimpses of his ball-hawking, playmaking abilities with the Cardinals, earning a Pro Bowl selection during the 2015 season, but also dealt with his share of injuries.

He tore ligaments in his left knee in 2013 and in his right knee in late 2015.

Mathieu signed a \$7 million deal with Houston last season and wound up starting all 16 games. He tied his career high with 89 tackles, added three sacks and had a pair of interceptions. — Buffalo have agreed to

sign tight end Tyler Kroft, running back Frank Gore, cornerback Kevin Johnson and center Mitch Morse.

Kroft agreed to a three-year contract that has a potential value of \$21 million. He spent his first four years with Cincinnati.

Gore agreed to a one-year, \$2 million contract. He is the NFL's active leader in yards rushing and returns for a 15th season after spending last year with Miami. The 35-year-old will join 30-year-old LeSean McCoy in forming what would be the NFL's oldest — and most historically productive — running back tandem.

Johnson agreed to sign with Buffalo after being cut by the Texans. He will compete for the starting job opposite Tre'Davious White. The 26-year-old Johnson was selected by Houston in the first round of the 2015 draft but never played to expectations because of injuries. Morse ought to help stabilize the Bills' offensive line. He spent his first four seasons in Kansas City, where he started 49 games. The biggest name in free agency remains Pittsburgh Steelers running back Le'Veon Bell, who sat out the 2018 season. Some of the standouts on defense received franchise tags: edge rushers Demarcus Lawrence, Jadeveon Clowney, Frank Clark and Dee Ford, tackle Grady Jarrett.

Other top guys sure to draw interest soon are New England's Trey Flowers, probably the top edge threat available; veteran safety Earl Thomas; linebackers C.J. Mosley, Preston Smith, Za'Darius Smith and Anthony Barr; and defensive back LeMarcus Joyner.

Teams with younger rosters or in a rebuild mode might look for veteran leadership. Forget how Thomas' stint ended with Seattle; he could be a foundation piece for a retooling team. Plenty of other veterans have been cut and are on the market, including Chiefs linebacker Justin Houston, Browns linebacker Jamie Collins, and safety Tashaun Gipson. □



# Suns beat Warriors for first time since 2014

**By The Associated Press**  
**OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)** — Devin Booker scored 13 straight Phoenix points during a decisive fourth-quarter stretch and finished with 37, and the Suns snapped the NBA's longest active losing streak to one opponent at 18 games by beating the Golden State Warriors 115-111 on Sunday night. The Suns beat Golden State for the first time since a 107-95 victory on Nov. 9, 2014, and earned their first road win in 20 tries against the Western Conference this season. Klay Thompson's two free throws with 1:04 to go made it 111-108. Andre Iguodala secured a rebound after two missed Suns shots but Stephen Curry missed on a 3 with 23 seconds left. Booker then converted two free throws.

Golden State star Kevin Durant had 25 points before leaving with a bruised right ankle midway through the fourth on a night his teammates struggled from near and far. The cold-shooting Warriors couldn't overcome Booker's late onslaught in losing to lowly Phoenix.

## **76ERS 106, PACERS 89**

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — Joel Embiid had 33 points and 12 rebounds in his first game in nearly a month, leading Philadelphia to the victory. Embiid returned to the line-up after being sidelined by a sore left knee. The Sixers went 4-4 without the All-Star center.

With Embiid back, the Sixers (42-25) moved into a tie with Indiana for third in the East, and they hold the tie-breaker over the Pacers by virtue of their 3-1 record in the season series.

The Pacers missed 17 of 20 shots in the third quarter and scored only 11 points while falling behind 72-70 after holding a 14-point lead.

Bojan Bogdanovic led the Pacers with 18 points.

## **ROCKETS 94, MAVERICKS 93**

**DALLAS (AP)** — Eric Gordon scored 26 points and Chris Paul blocked Jalen Brunson's jumper in the final seconds, sending Houston to its eighth straight win.



Phoenix Suns guard Devin Booker (1) celebrates with guard Tyler Johnson (16) and forward Kelly Oubre Jr. (3) during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Golden State Warriors in Oakland, Calif., Sunday, March 10, 2019.

Associated Press

James Harden shook off foul trouble to score 20 points for the Rockets. Clint Capela added 17 points and 12 rebounds.

Dallas lost for the 10th time in 11 games.

Luka Doncic had 19 points and a career-high 15 rebounds for the Mavericks, and fellow rookie Brunson finished with 18 points.

Doncic appeared to hurt his left knee in the fourth quarter and limped off the court for a timeout with 4:17 to play, but he stayed in the game.

## **RAPTORS 125, HEAT 104**

**MIAMI (AP)** — Kyle Lowry had 24 points and 10 assists, Pascal Siakam scored 20 and Toronto tied a franchise record with 21 3-pointers.

The Raptors finished with eight players in double figures. Danny Green scored 15 points, all on 3-pointers. Norman Powell also scored 15. Toronto's only other game with 21 3s was against Philadelphia in 2005. Bam Adebayo scored 19 for the Heat, who had won four in a row. Dion Waiters and Dwyane Wade each scored 15.

## **SPURS 121, BUCKS 114**

**SAN ANTONIO (AP)** — LaMarcus Aldridge had 29

points and 15 rebounds, and the Spurs rallied for their fifth straight win.

San Antonio has beaten the top three teams in the East at home after topping Philadelphia in December and Toronto in January. Milwaukee's lead atop the Eastern Conference was cut to two games ahead of Toronto.

DeMar DeRozan scored 28 points for San Antonio. Reserves Marco Belinelli and Patty Mills both had 16 points.

Giannis Antetokounmpo had 27 points and 13 rebounds for Milwaukee, and Eric Bledsoe added 21 points.

## **PISTONS 131, BULLS 108**

**DETROIT (AP)** — Blake Griffin scored 17 of his 28 points in the third quarter, helping Detroit to its fifth straight win.

Detroit has won 12 of 14 to take a half-game lead over Brooklyn for the sixth seed in the Eastern Conference. The Pistons and Nets play Monday night in Brooklyn. Reggie Jackson scored 21 points for Detroit, and Andre Drummond added 16 points and 15 rebounds.

The Bulls have lost four of five, including twice to Detroit in three days.

Chicago played without Zach LaVine, who was sidelined by a right patellar tendon strain. Wayne Selden led the Bulls with 18 points.

## **TIMBERWOLVES 103, KNICKS 92**

**MINNEAPOLIS (AP)** — Taj Gibson scored a season-high 25 points, powering short-handed Minnesota to the win.

Jeff Teague had 20 points and 10 assists for the Timberwolves. Rookie Keita Bates-Diop scored a career-high 18 points.

Minnesota played without two of its top three scorers. All-Star center Karl-Anthony Towns was sidelined by right knee inflammation, while forward Andrewiggins sat out with a thigh contusion.

Damyean Dotson led New York with 26 points on 10-for-19 shooting. Allonzo Trier added 15, and Mitchell Robinson had eight points, 10 rebounds, and five blocks.

## **HAWKS 128, PELICANS 116**

**ATLANTA (AP)** — Kevin Huerter scored 17 of his 27 points in the second quarter, taking the scoring load from cold-shooting fellow rookie Trae Young, and Atlanta stopped a three-game slide.

The Hawks also got a solid all-around performance from John Collins, who finished with 23 points, 10 rebounds and four blocked shots. Young had 10 points and 10 assists while shooting only 2 of 14. Frank Jackson and Julius Randle each scored 23 points for the Pelicans, who have lost three straight. Elfrid Payton had 15 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists. New Orleans star Anthony Davis had 15 points and eight rebounds in about 21 minutes after missing Friday night's loss to Toronto with back spasms.

## **GRIZZLIES 105, MAGIC 97**

**MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)** — Mike Conley scored 14 of his 26 points in the fourth quarter, helping Memphis to its third straight win.

Avery Bradley had 21 points for the Grizzlies, and CJ Miles finished with 13 points. It's the first three-game win streak for Memphis since it won five in a row in mid-November.

Nikola Vucevic led the Magic with 26 points and 10 rebounds, and Terrence Ross added 15 points. Orlando has lost three of its last four, again failing to work its way into the Eastern Conference's final playoff spot. □



# Pens end Bruins' 19-game point streak with 4-2 win

**By The Associated Press**  
**PITTSBURGH (AP)** — Jared McCann scored twice, Matt Murray finished with 39 saves and the Pittsburgh Penguins handed the Boston Bruins their first regulation loss since January with a 4-2 victory on Sunday night.

Nick Bjugstad and Jake Guentzel also scored for the Penguins, who survived another late push by the Bruins.

David Krejci picked up his 19th of the season and John Moore got Boston within one when he scored with just over a minute to go. But the Bruins couldn't complete the comeback, ending their 19-game point streak. It was the first regulation loss for Krejci and company since Jan. 19 against the New York Rangers.

Jaroslav Halak made 33 stops, but Boston remained winless in Pittsburgh since December 2015.

## **CAPITALS 3, JETS 1**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Carl Hagelin scored the go-ahead goal on a breakaway out of the penalty box and Pheonix Copley made 33 saves, helping the

Capitals to their seventh consecutive victory.

Led by Copley, Hagelin and Nick Jensen, the Capitals killed off all five minor penalties they took and won despite being outshot 34-18. They haven't lost since adding Hagelin and Jensen to their lineup before the trade deadline.

Nicklas Backstrom also scored and Lars Eller added an empty-netter for the Capitals, who now lead the Metropolitan Division by four points.

Mathieu Perreault scored for Winnipeg, and Connor Hellebuyck made 15 saves.

## **FLAMES 6, GOLDEN KNIGHTS 3**

**CALGARY, Alberta (AP)** — Matthew Tkachuk scored three goals for his first NHL hat trick, and Calgary snapped Vegas' six-game winning streak.

Mikael Backlund added two goals and an assist for the Flames, who ended a four-game skid to move back atop the Pacific Division standings ahead of San Jose.

Playing alongside Tkachuk and Backlund, right wing Michael Frolik had four as-



Pittsburgh Penguins' Jared McCann (19) prepares to put a shot around Boston Bruins goaltender Jaroslav Halak (41) for a short-handed goal during the first period of an NHL hockey game in Pittsburgh, Sunday, March 10, 2019.

Associated Press

sists as the line combined for 11 points. Andrew Mangiapane also scored for Calgary, and David Rittich made 25 saves.

Brandon Pirri, Reilly Smith and Mark Stone scored for the Golden Knights. Malcolm Subban finished with 29 saves.

## **PANTHERS 6, RED WINGS 1**

**SUNRISE, Fla. (AP)** — Aleksander Barkov reached 30 goals for the first time in his career, and Florida earned its second straight win since a costly six-game slide.

Josh Brown and Dryden Hunt each scored their first NHL goal for the Panthers. Jonathan Huberdeau had

a goal and an assist, and Jamie McGinn and Frank Vatrano also scored.

Making his third NHL start, Sam Montembeault stopped 19 shots as the Panthers finished their season series against the Red Wings with a 3-0-1 record. The 23-year-old Barkov had at least 21 goals in each of the previous three seasons, but he had never reached 30 until he made it 6-1 7:44 into the third period.

Thomas Vanek had a power-play goal for Detroit, which dropped to 1-7-3 in its past 11 games. Jimmy Howard had 37 saves.

## **KINGS 3, DUCKS 2**

**ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)** — Carl Grundstrom scored his second NHL goal in his second career game and the Kings won for just the second time in 15 games.

Dustin Brown and Kyle Clifford also scored first-period goals, and Jonathan Quick made 18 saves in the 15th-place Kings' second win in the Freeway Faceoff rivalry this season.

Jakob Silfverberg and Daniel Sprong scored for the 14th-place Ducks, who followed up an impressive performance against Montreal with a lifeless effort against their neighbors. Ryan Miller stopped 22 shots. □

# Sabres captain Eichel disagrees with 2-game suspension

**By JOHN WAWROW**

**AP Hockey Writer**

**BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP)** — Jack Eichel will abide by the NHL's decision to suspend him two games for an illegal check to Colorado forward Carl Soderberg's head.

That doesn't mean the Buffalo Sabres captain has to agree with it.

"If you look at the hit and look at the rule book, I didn't think it matched up," Eichel said following practice Monday. "It's kind of frustrating."

Eichel was suspended Sunday following a hearing with the league's department of player safety.

He blamed Soderberg for



Colorado Avalanche defenseman Erik Johnson (6) hits Buffalo Sabres center Jack Eichel (9) during the second period of an NHL hockey game Saturday, March 9, 2019, in Denver.

Associated Press

lowering his head while the two raced for a loose puck along the boards during Colorado's 3-0 victory

Saturday. He said Soderberg was reaching for the puck and that his head hit Eichel's back.

The NHL ruled Eichel was to blame because Soderberg didn't change the direction he was heading, while Eichel cut sharply in front of Soderberg to initiate contact.

"While we acknowledge Eichel's argument that Soderberg is low and reaching for the puck, this hit does not meet any of the criteria for unavoidable head contact," the league ruled. "Soderberg is in a low position and reaching out for the puck before Eichel changes his course to initiate this hit."

Eichel was penalized for an illegal hit. The suspension will cost him more than \$107,500 in lost salary.

Sabres coach Phil Housley backed Eichel, who leads the team with a career-best 72 points (25 goals, 47 assists) in 65 games.

"I don't agree with the decision, but we'll have to live with it, and that's all I'm going to say about that," Housley said. Alexander Nylander is expected to replace Eichel in the lineup after the 2016 first-round draft pick was called up from the minors. The Sabres host Dallas on Tuesday and have tumbled out of the playoff race by going 2-8-2 in their past 12 games. □



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## Kyle Busch nears milestone 200th NASCAR victory

By DAVE SKRETTA  
AP Sports Writer

**PHOENIX (AP)** — Joe Gibbs has spent his career watching Hall of Fame-caliber athletes ply their trades, whether as the Super Bowl-winning coach of the Washington Redskins or the title-winning owner of a race team.

In his mind, what separates them from a run-of-the-mill star is an insatiable will to succeed, the kind of drive that allows them to reach the next level. They set goals, sometimes absurdly difficult to achieve, and then spend every ounce of sweat and blood to reach them.

Goals like 200 wins in NASCAR's top three series.

With Kyle Busch one win away from that milestone following his weekend sweep of the Xfinity and Cup series races at ISM Raceway, his 78-year-old owner is ready to group him with the elites.

"I think he's driven by big things like that, by records," Gibbs said. "I know how bad he wants to win every race because I can pick up from him talking how bad he wants things. He's driven by trying to do something great, so I think it'll be a big deal for him."

Busch will have two opportunities to reach the milestone this weekend at Auto Club Speedway in Fontana, California. He will be back in his Xfinity ride seeking his third straight win in the series, then will hop in his No. 18 Toyota to chase his 53rd win in NASCAR's top series — a far cry from when "Rowdy" made his Trucks Series debut as a 16-year-old in 2001.

"It's pretty incredible, honestly, with what he's done in the modern day to be able to do that," said Joey Logano, one of his former teammates. "I know he's got a lot of Cup wins to go with the Xfinity and Truck wins, but the Cup wins, to me, are the most impressive part — that he's able to do that."

After a couple of feeling-out rides for Hendrick Motorsports in 2004, Busch jumped into a full-time ride and never really looked back. He won twice in 2005, finished in the top 10 in points the following season and continued his march toward the pinnacle of his sport.

He moved to Joe Gibbs Racing in 2008 and really caught fire, winning seven times, and he captured the series championship four years ago by winning the year-end race at Homestead. Just about the only trophy he's missing from his case is the Daytona 500.

Busch has built a 77,000-square foot facility that houses his own race team, along with most of the hardware he's won over the years. Trophies are stacked upon top of other trophies, and the cases that house his Bristol wins are particularly full.

"We've got our fair share of trophy cases we've gone through," he said with a smile, "and every time we get a new one we seem to fill it up. They're all over the place."

So is Busch. His successful Truck Series program soaks up plenty of time, especially when he slips behind the wheel for a weekend. He usually runs the maximum number of Xfinity races. He



Kyle Busch tosses his son Brexton in the air after winning the NASCAR Cup Series auto race at ISM Raceway, Sunday, March 10, 2019, in Avondale, Ariz.

Associated Press

has been among the fastest cars in the Cup Series for years, regardless of engine, body or rules changes.

He also finds time to dote on his wife, Samantha, and son Brexton, hoisting him up in victory lane on Sunday.

"I guess the fact that's impressive to me is he owns his own truck and he's running his own race team there. That's impressive," Logano said. "It's hard to do and it's something I don't ever really want to do. Obviously, when he's running the Gibbs Xfinity cars they're so fast, and he's able to stack them up there as well, and he's not too bad in the Cup Series."

Where he will ultimately stack up among NASCAR

greats is a worthy debate. Richard Petty won a record 200 times in its top series, though that was a different era. The King is tied with Dale Earnhardt and Jimmie Johnson with seven championships apiece. And more obscure records such as lead-lap finishes are held by Jeff Gordon, himself a four-time Cup champion. Then again, Busch has been able to win in just about anything with wheels, and the brother of Cup Series driver Kurt Busch is competing in arguably the most competitive age in the sport's history.

"You know, we've been talking about it for a long time," he said of 200 wins, "and certainly, I don't know

what to say that I've not already said. It's a goal I set out a long, long time ago." He doesn't remember exactly when, but chances are it came when he began racking up victories with Gibbs' team. And it hardly surprises Busch's owner that he not only set such an audacious goal, but that the 33-year-old driver is already close to accomplishing it.

"I just think he's an unusual talent," Gibbs said, "and all of us that watch sports, me included, enjoy watching those unbelievable athletes, and we ask, 'How does that happen?' He can just drive the thing when it's several degrees past where a normal person can drive it, and it's just a gift." □



# MMA fighter Conor McGregor arrested in South Florida

By DAVID FISCHER

**MIAMI (AP)** — Mixed martial artist and boxer Conor McGregor has been arrested in South Florida for stealing the cellphone of someone who was trying to take his photo, authorities said. According to a Miami Beach police report, the 30-year-old McGregor was arrested Monday afternoon and charged with robbery and criminal mischief. An attorney for McGregor called the altercation "minor" and said the popular fighter would cooperate with authorities.

McGregor was leaving the Fontainebleau Miami Beach shortly after 5 a.m. Monday when a 22-year-old man attempted to take a picture of McGregor, the police report said. Police said McGregor slapped the phone out of the man's hand and then stomped on it several times. McGregor then grabbed the phone and left the area, the report said. Police later found McGregor at his local address.

McGregor was being held on \$12,500 bail.

"Last evening Conor McGregor was involved in a minor altercation involving a cellphone that resulted in a call to law enforcement,"



This photo provided by the Miami-Dade Corrections and Rehabilitation Department shows Conor McGregor.

Associated Press

Samuel J. Rabin Jr., a Miami-based attorney representing McGregor, said in a statement. "Mr. McGregor appreciates the response of law enforcement and pledges his full cooperation."

McGregor, who's from Ireland, is the former UFC featherweight and lightweight champion and one of the biggest draws in MMA. He returned to UFC last fall after a hiatus during which he made his boxing debut, a loss to Floyd Mayweather. He was suspended from UFC for six months and fined \$50,000 for a brawl after his loss to Khabib Nurmagomedov in October. □

# Barguil out of Paris-Nice race with fractured vertebra

**PARIS (AP)** — French cyclist Warren Barguil has been taken to the hospital with a fractured vertebra after a serious crash during the Paris-Nice race on Monday.

Barguil, who won the Tour de France's King of the Mountains jersey in 2017 as the best climber, was involved in a crash 59 kilometers (36.6 miles) into the second stage won by race leader Dylan Groenewegen.

newegen.

His team, Arkea-Samsic, says Barguil briefly lost consciousness and was diagnosed with a double fracture of the second cervical vertebra.

It is unclear how long Barguil will be sidelined. Arkea-Samsic general manager Emmanuel Hubert told local media Barguil's injury "is very annoying but he will recover soon and he will be very fine." □

# French musher was leading Iditarod, but then his dogs quit



Nicolas Petit hugs one of his dogs before they leave Unalakleet, Alaska, during the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race on Sunday, March 10, 2019.

Associated Press

By MARK THIESSEN Associated Press

**ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)**

French musher Nicolas Petit looked like he was in solid control of the world's most famous sled dog race and about to erase a year of doubts and second-guessing after a last minute misstep cost him the 2017 title.

Then the dogs quit on him Monday morning.

A dog named Joey had been fighting with another dog on the team and jumped it during a break as the team was making its way to the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race checkpoint of Koyuk on the Bering Sea coast.

"I yelled at Joey, and everybody heard the yelling, and that doesn't happen," Petit told the Iditarod Insider website. "And then they wouldn't go anymore. Anywhere. So we camped here."

Several mushers passed Petit's team on the trail, erasing his five-hour lead in the race. Pete Kaiser of Alaska was the first musher into Koyuk, followed about an hour later by defending champion Joar Ulsom of Norway. Kaiser rested for nearly 5 ½ hours before getting back on the trail.

The checkpoint is 827 miles (1,330 kilometers) into the

1,000-mile (1,600-kilometer) race across Alaska.

Petit said his dogs are well-fed, and there's no medical issue keeping them from getting up and running.

"It's just a head thing," he said. "We'll see if one of these dog teams coming by will wake them up at all." People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals took issue with Petit's reasoning.

"It's not the dogs who need to have their heads examined — it's anyone who supports this merciless race. Illness, injury, or fatigue likely prompted Nicolas Petit to drop four dogs from his team, forcing the remaining 10 to work even harder before they gave up altogether, which he blamed on 'just a head thing,'" PETA Executive Vice President Tracy Reiman said in a statement.

But Libby Riddles, the 1985 Iditarod champion and the first woman to win the race, said the incident demonstrates why dog mushing is a fine art. It requires a balance between being competitive and keeping the dogs happy.

"People have this idea that you can force these dogs to Nome," she said in a phone interview. "It's not like that at all."

"The amount of intuition and communication and

trust and experience you have with your dogs is how it all happens and comes together, and Nic Petit happens to actually be one of the best in the business at this," Riddles said.

Riddle been involved with mushing for 40 years and said she could live 20 lifetimes and not learn everything. But if the dogs get unhappy, they can quit on you, she said.

"Sometimes all it takes is just this one sour grape in the team," Riddles said. "One dog that has a bad attitude, and it infects the whole rest of the team."

Huskies in some ways are more primitive than other dogs, she said. Mushers are dealing with their pack mentality.

"It's like a wolf. Things happen over food. Sometimes if they think a dog is a little wimpy, when they're crabby, they might want to pick on it," she said.

Petit will learn from the experience and rebuild, she said.

"I think Nic is handling this pretty well, actually. I think he wants to make sure to preserve a good mental attitude with these dogs for the rest of their careers. That's what he's looking at — not just today's race," Riddles said.

For Petit, it's another bad memory from the stretch between the Shaktoolik and Koyuk checkpoints.

He was in command of last year's race when he got off trail during a blizzard and lost the lead. He wound up finishing second behind Ulsom. "Something about right here, huh?" he mused. The race started March 2 in Willow, just north of Anchorage. The course through the Alaska wilderness took mushers over two mountain ranges and the frozen Yukon River before they reached the treacherous Bering Sea coast.

The winner is expected to come off the sea ice and mush down Nome's main street to the finish line sometime in the middle of the week. □



# AL Cy Young winner Snell receives small raise for 2019

By FRED GOODALL

PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. (AP)

— The budget-minded Tampa Bay Rays have renewed the contract of pitcher Blake Snell, who's receiving a raise of only \$15,500 after winning the AL Cy Young award last season.

The 26-year-old left-hander, who's not yet eligible for salary arbitration, will earn \$573,700 this year after making \$558,200 in 2018, when he was a first-time All-Star and went 21-5 with an AL-leading 1.89 ERA over 31 starts.

The Rays announced the

decision Sunday, adhering to a rigid club policy for compensating young players not yet eligible for arbitration. Snell, who led the AL in victories after winning just 11 games combined over the previous two seasons, has accrued 2 years, 72 days years of service — this year's cutoff was 2 years, 134 days.

The pitcher's agents, Adam Karon and Tripper Johnson of Sosnick, Cobbe & Karon, issued a statement on behalf of Snell, who allowed two or fewer runs in 27 of 31 starts and limited opponents to an .088 batting av-

erage with runners in scoring position last season.

"The Rays have the right under the collective-bargaining agreement to renew me at or near the league-minimum salary," Snell said. "They also have the ability to more adequately compensate me, as other organizations have done with players who have similar achievements to mine. The Rays chose the former," he said. "I will have no further comment and look forward to competing with my teammates and field staff in our quest to win the World Series in 2019." □



Tampa Bay Rays' Blake Snell pitches to the Philadelphia Phillies during the second inning of a spring training baseball game Monday, March 11, 2019, in Clearwater, Fla.

Associated Press

## ZIDANE

Continued from Page 17

I'm motivated to be coaching again," Zidane said. "What I want to do now is return to work and put the club back where it belongs."

Spanish television channel La Sexta was the first to report Zidane's return. The announcement came after the board of directors met Monday in Madrid.

"You have an incredible history with the club, both as a player and as a coach," Madrid president Florentino Perez told Zidane. "We are proud to have you with us again. You represent the grandiosity of this club. Thank you for your loyalty." Zidane, who won the 2002 Champions League while playing for Madrid, said he was never in doubt after receiving the offer from Perez.

"I love this club, and when the president called me, I couldn't say no," Zidane said. "I'll give everything I have to make this club better."

Zidane quit not long after Madrid won the Champions League title last season, saying that he and the club needed a change in command to keep succeeding. He won nine titles in his first stint with Madrid.

Zidane will be in charge of Tuesday's practice session, and his first game back will be on Saturday at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium against Celta Vigo. Madrid trails leader Barcelona by 12 points with 11 matches

left and is five points behind second-place Atletico Madrid.

"I've been watching the season closely and I'm also not happy with how things have gone," Zidane said. "We have to see what we can (do) to improve and make sure things can be different going forward."

Solari led the team to a 4-1 win at Valladolid on Sunday and was in charge of practice on Monday. The club said it offered him an opportunity to remain in a different position. The former Argentina and Madrid player had been the "B" team's coach before taking over the main squad in October.

Solari led Madrid to 22 wins, eight losses and two draws in all competitions, and helped the team win the Club World Cup in December.

Zidane's name was a unanimous choice within the club but few thought he would accept returning so soon after deciding to take a break.

The level-headed coach took over in January 2016 and immediately won over the squad with his calm manner and easygoing attitude. In addition to the three Champions League titles, he also led Madrid to the 2017 Spanish league title, the club's first since 2012. His other titles in his first coaching stint included two Club World Cups, two UEFA Super Cups and one Spanish Super Cup.

Shortly after Zidane left,

Cristiano Ronaldo left to join Juventus, and Madrid has endured an up-and-down season that led to the humiliating losses to Barcelona and Ajax at the Bernabeu.

Zidane was replaced by Julen Lopetegui, the former Spain coach who was fired before the World Cup for taking the Madrid job. He lasted only a few months at the helm.

Solari took over from Lopetegui as an interim coach and eventually was given a full-time job — with a contract until 2021 — after putting the team back on track. Unlike Zidane, though, he struggled to manage the squad and was at odds with some of its key players, including Marcelo and Francisco "Isco" Alarcon.

Jose Mourinho, fired by

Manchester United last year, was another strong candidate to replace Solari after succeeding with Madrid in the early 2010s. Other names mentioned included Juergen Klopp, Mauricio Pochettino, Joachim Loew and Antonio Conte, who was highly touted to take over from the fired Lopetegui.

Some even wanted the club to consider former star Raul Gonzalez, who has just started coaching one of Madrid's youth squads. But it will be the great Zidane at the helm again.

"We'll get back to work and try to do the right things," Zidane said. "We have 11 matches left in the league, then we will start thinking about next year and beyond." □

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# Head of U.N. Women: Technology revolution must benefit women

By EDITH M. LEDERER

Associated Press

**UNITED NATIONS (AP)** — The head of the U.N. women's agency is calling for the revolution in technology to be used to benefit the world's poor, and especially women, who will not achieve gender equality without "the giant leap that 21st century innovations can bring."

Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka said in an interview and a speech ahead of the Commission on the Status of Women's annual meeting starting Monday that sanitation, clean water, good roads, affordable internet service and use of mobile phones to transfer money and pay bills are critical to changing women's lives.

"We have made progress toward gender equality. We have more women in significant roles, but we're still leaving many, many more women behind," the



In this Friday, March 8, 2019 photo provided by the United Nations, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, third from right, executive director of UN Women, speaks at the United Nations Observance of International Women's Day at the United Nations headquarters.

Associated Press

executive director of UN Women said. "Sometimes we even lose the gains that we've already made. And that is why we are emphasizing the importance of innovation and technology." Mlambo-Ngcuka stressed

that "the 21st century is about large ideas, scale and speed."

If technology and innovation aren't used to promote equality for women from agriculture and education to finance and health, she said, the "Fourth Industrial Revolution" of rapid technological change will happen "and the women will still be living in the previous industrial revolution, which also did not work for them very well."

Mlambo-Ngcuka said, "The good news is that for many of the problems we have today there are solutions that we know about."

She pointed to affordable internet service and the use of "mobile money" through mobile phones that is changing the lives of women in Kenya in the same way that microcredit — small loans — has enabled hundreds of thousands of women in developing countries to start businesses.

In some countries, "mobile money" can be used to pay for the delivery of water or buying energy, "so it's not a luxury to have that kind of infrastructure," Mlambo-Ngcuka said. "It's a game-changer. It changes for better the GDP of countries."

She noted that 80 percent of women in low-income

and middle-income countries own mobile phones and "it would be a historic mistake to fail to make deliberate use of these technologies to advance gender equality."

Mlambo-Ngcuka said improving infrastructure to provide clean water means that girls don't have to walk miles to get water from a river and boil it.

In her native South Africa, she said, "providing free water, electricity and social protection for the poor has meant more children go to school and stay in school, and parents are able to have a decent life and reduce malnutrition."

In Rwanda, Mlambo-Ngcuka said, drones are being used to deliver medicine to rural areas, and in West Africa, drones are being used to oversee fields and sprinkle organic material to kill pests. And she said blockchain technology — storing digital information about transactions in a public database — can be used to deliver services to displaced people.

But Mlambo-Ngcuka said, "The bad news is that even though there are solutions, they are not being taken into account fully, even where it reduces the cost."

She said the biggest challenge in implementing the U.N. goal of achieving gender equality by 2030 is the need to accelerate the pace and scale-up action. Infrastructure is one of the barriers, which she said is why it is a key focus of this year's two-week meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women.

The debate on the commission's final document is still underway, and Mlambo-Ngcuka said among the issues still being discussed are the affordability of infrastructure projects and how can they be financed, and the transfer of technology so that those in relatively agrarian countries can leapfrog to the internet era.

"Some countries think water is more important than broadband" high-speed internet access, "but you actually need both," she said.

## OPEN HOUSES TUESDAY, MARCH 12TH 04:00PM-06:00PM

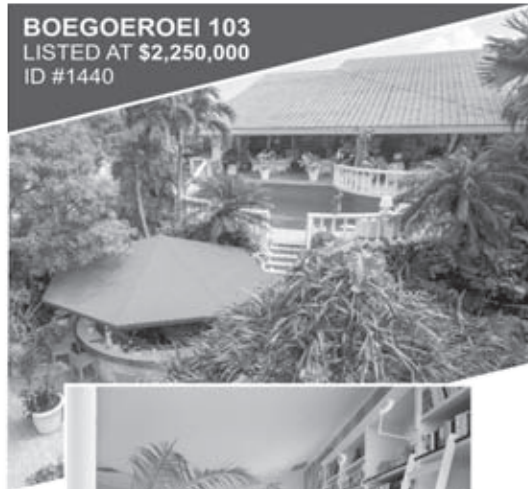
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- Beautiful View

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## Liz Weston: Can your employer cure your money woes?

By LIZ WESTON  
NerdWallet

Millions of Americans get their health insurance and retirement accounts through their employers. Now some are getting help with their debt.

Companies including insurer Aetna and accounting firm PwC help employees pay down student loans. Others partner with startups to offer debt solutions as an employee benefit. Among the approaches:

- MedPut negotiates discounts on medical debt and offers interest-free loans that are repaid through payroll deductions.
- Brightside connects workers to debt consolidation loans and student loan refinancing.

- HoneyBee, PayActiv and TrueConnect, among others, provide payday advances or emergency loans so struggling workers can avoid the payday loan trap.

### FINANCIAL STRESS TAKES A TOLL

Employers increasingly are aware that money worries can reduce productivity and increase absenteeism. More than half of the 1,600 full-time employees polled by PwC in 2017 reported feeling stressed about their finances, and human resources company Mercer has estimated financial stress costs U.S. businesses up to \$250 billion a year. Debt appears to play a leading role in creating



This April 2017 file photo provided by NerdWallet shows Liz Weston, a columnist for personal finance website NerdWallet.com.

Associated Press

that stress. Seven out of 10 employers in a survey last year said that debt was the No. 1 financial challenge faced by their employees, according to the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans. Programs to help workers pay student loans were among the first debt-focused employee benefits companies offered, but they're still not common. More companies offer pet insurance (11 percent)

than student loan assistance (4 percent), according to a 2018 survey for the Society for Human Resource Management. Employers that offer the benefit typically provide about \$100 a month for a set number of years or with a lifetime maximum, often around \$10,000. Insurance company Unum allows employees to transfer up to 40 hours of paid time off to student loan repayment.

### STARTUPS FOCUS ON PAY-

### CHECK-TO-PAYCHECK WORKERS

Employers know many of their workers are burdened by education debt, which has reached record levels. But employers may not know how many of their workers need emergency loans to make ends meet, says Ennie Lim, HoneyBee president and chief executive.

It's not just the lowest paid who have trouble. The 35-day government shutdown

that ended Jan. 25 highlighted the financial fragility of even better-paid workers, Lim notes.

"Federal workers were lining up at food banks because they were unable to cover their basic needs," she says. Twenty-two percent of HoneyBee's borrowers last year earned less than \$30,000, while 52 percent made between \$30,000 and \$50,000 and 26 percent were paid more than \$50,000, Lim says. HoneyBee, like competitors TrueConnect and Salary Finance, offers small loans that can be repaid over time. PayActiv, meanwhile, allows employees to tap into wages they've already earned through payday advances.

Brightside does not loan money directly. Instead, it trains financial assistants to work with employees who have money issues, says Sophie Raseman, Brightside's head of financial solutions. If someone needs a loan, the assistants can discuss the costs, risks and potential benefits of products the company has vetted, as well as offer alternatives, she says.

MedPut, meanwhile, audits medical bills for errors, negotiates discounts in return for prompt payment, then loans workers the money to pay the debt. The startup-focused on medical bills since those can be a huge stressor for employees, says Harsha Puvvada, MedPut cofounder. □



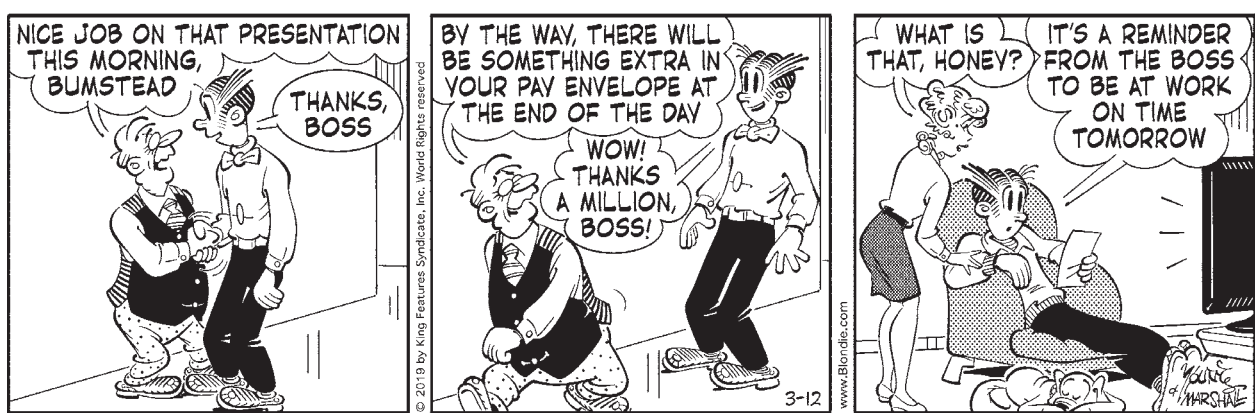
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



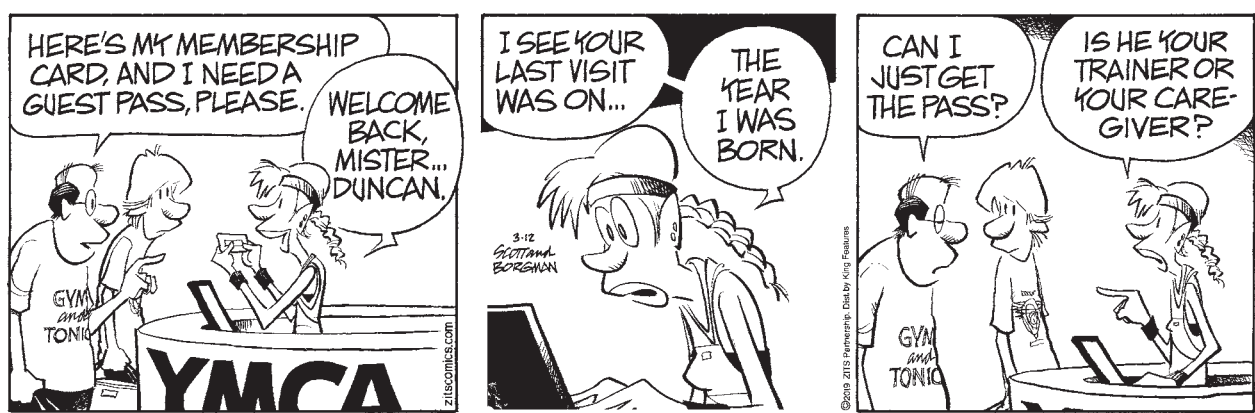
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	6		9			7		
					6			2
7		1	2			4		
	1			2		9		8
6		3		7			1	
		8			7	2		3
3			5					
		7			1		8	

Difficulty Level ★★

3/12

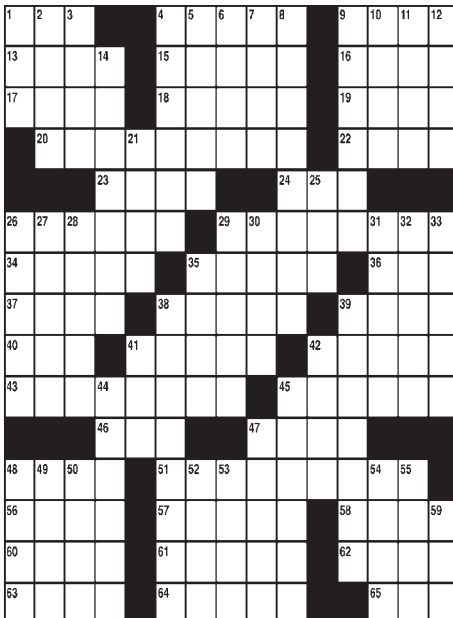
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

4	6	5	8	9	3	2	7	1
9	2	8	1	4	7	5	6	3
1	3	7	6	5	2	9	8	4
2	8	1	4	6	9	7	3	5
3	7	4	2	8	5	6	1	9
6	5	9	7	3	1	4	2	8
8	4	3	9	7	6	1	5	2
7	9	2	5	1	8	3	4	6
5	1	6	3	2	4	8	9	7

ACROSS

- 1 \_\_\_ for; choose
- 4 Part of NASA
- 9 Golfer Mickelson
- 13 African nation
- 15 Composer George M. \_\_\_
- 16 Run competitively
- 17 Magazine title
- 18 \_\_\_-ho; dismissal
- 19 Kitchen appliance
- 20 Calendar page
- 22 Prescriptions, for short
- 23 NFL team
- 24 Opening
- 26 Bowler's delight
- 29 Leaving out
- 34 Innocent
- 35 First aid kit item
- 36 "\_\_\_ many cooks spoil the broth"
- 37 Qualified
- 38 Simpson mom
- 39 Bazaar
- 40 Sick
- 41 Desert fruits
- 42 True or \_\_\_ test
- 43 Diminished
- 45 Sent an invoice to
- 46 Actor Knight
- 47 Barn baby
- 48 In addition
- 51 Vital
- 56 Tush
- 57 Facial hair
- 58 Weather forecast
- 60 Yarn
- 61 Cyclist Armstrong
- 62 Days of \_\_\_; yesteryear
- 63 Drove 80 mph
- 64 Go into
- 65 Small barrel



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

3/12/19

Monday's Puzzle Solved

PAW	DABBA	ALSO
HOPE	ALOES	NOON
UPON	STEAK	KNIFE
GEL	CHARM	AUNTS
OCHER	BYA	
JAGUAR	QUALMS	
ADEPT	CAULK	ILL
VATS	FATAL	PLEA
AMI	DARED	COLES
SCARCE	JOSEPH	
GUT	RAVEN	
EBSEN	STAGE	NBA
BLANKET	ING	DIED
BUNT	DODGE	OUTS
SEES	SPEED	AMA

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3/12/19

DOWN

- 1 Fall month; abbr.
- 2 Fraternity letters
- 3 Subdue
- 5 "The Raven" & "How Do I Love Thee?"
- 6 Captain in "Moby-Dick"
- 7 Grotto
- 8 Put zip into; enliven
- 9 On time
- 10 "As luck would \_\_\_ it..."
- 11 Frosted
- 12 Part of the eye
- 14 \_\_\_ of; take from
- 21 \_\_\_ a shine to; like
- 25 Feasted
- 26 Slow crawler
- 27 Piece of furniture
- 28 Small brooks
- 29 Rowed
- 30 Coffee cups
- 31 Know-\_\_\_; smarty-pants
- 32 Racket
- 33 Injured by a bull

- 35 Fence door
- 38 Lower jaw
- 39 Misconception
- 41 Shameful grade
- 42 Italian car
- 44 Packed away
- 45 Margin
- 47 Compel
- 48 Creative works
- 49 Jump
- 50 Shopper's delight
- 52 Cruel
- 53 Breathe heavily
- 54 Kitchen recess
- 55 Ripped
- 59 Piece of chicken



# Classifieds

## Halley Time Travel

### Divi Vilage

Sunday Check in building F  
1 BR WK # 8 & 9 Same room  
rd floor with 21 and 25 weeks  
remain  
on the contract \$9000 Each

### Divi Links Golf

Saturday Check in Eagle 15  
1BR WK 8 & 9 with 27  
weeks remain \$9000 each  
Eagle Resorts & Casino  
1 Br WK 7 Ground floor \$5500

### Divi Village

Building C Elevator  
2 BR WK 13 \$14K  
3rd floor with 29/8 accelerated  
weeks remain  
Divi Links Golf  
Birdie 1  
1 BR WK 11 & 12 \$9 K each  
2 sd floor with 25 weeks remain

### Divi Links Golf

Birdie 1  
Studio WK 11 \$8 K  
2 sd floor with 27 weeks remain  
Divi Village  
Building C  
1 BR WK #14 \$7500  
1st floor with 16 weeks remain

### La Cabana Beach and Casino

Sunday Check in  
1 BR WK 11 & 12 \$18 K Both  
weeks  
4th floor pool/ocean view  
Renaissance suites  
1 BR WK 9 \$9 K  
4th floor harbor /ocean view

### Marriott Ocean Club

Platinum Weeks  
1 BR Ocean View \$12 K  
2 BR Ocean View \$17 K  
2 BR Ocean Front \$28 K

### Marriott Surf Club

Platinum  
2 BR Garden View \$15 K  
2 BR Ocean View \$16 K  
2 BR Ocean Side \$17 K  
2 BR Ocean Front \$27 K  
3 BR Ocean View \$27 K

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# Scientists discover different kind of killer whale off Chile

By **SETH BORENSTEIN**

AP Science Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — For decades, there were tales from fishermen and tourists, even lots of photos, of a mysterious killer whale that just didn't look like all the others, but scientists had never seen one.

Now they have.

An international team of researchers says they found a couple dozen of these distinctly different orcas roaming in the oceans off southern Chile in January. Scientists are waiting for DNA tests from a tissue sample but think it may be a distinct species.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration felt confident enough to trumpet the discovery of the long rumored killer whale on Thursday. Some outside experts were more cautious, acknowledging the whales are different, but saying they'd wait for the test results to answer the species question.

"This is the most different looking killer whale I've ever seen," said Robert Pitman,



This combination of photos provided by Paul Tixier and NOAA shows a Type D killer whale, top, and a more common killer whale.

Associated Press

a NOAA marine ecologist in San Diego. He was part of the team that spotted the orcas off Cape Horn at the tip of South America.

How different? The whale's signature large white eye patch is tiny on these new guys, barely noticeable. Their heads are a bit more

rounded and less sleek than normal killer whales and their dorsal fins are narrower and pointed.

They likely mostly eat fish, not marine mammals like seals, as other killer whales do, Pitman said. Fishermen have complained about how good they are at

poaching off fishing lines, snatching 200-pound fish away. Pitman said they are so different they probably can't breed with other killer whales and are likely a new species. At 20 to 25 feet long (6 to 7.5 meters), they are slightly smaller than most killer whales. In the Southern Hemisphere, killer whales are considered all one species, classified in types A through C. This one is called type D or subantarctic killer whales.

Michael McGowen, marine mammal curator at the Smithsonian, said calling it a new species without genetic data may be premature. Still, he said, "I think it's pretty remarkable that there are still many things out there in the ocean like a huge killer whale that we don't know about."

Scientists have heard about these distinctive whales ever since a mass stranding in New Zealand in 1955. Scientists initially thought it could be one family of killer whales that had a specific mutation, but the January discovery and all the pho-

tos in between point to a different type, Pitman said. He said they are hard to find because they live far south and away from shore, unlike most killer whales.

"The type D killer whale lives in the most inhospitable waters on the planet. It's a good place to hide."

Pitman got interested in this mysterious killer whale when he was shown a photograph in 2005. When he and others decided to go find them, they followed the advice and directions of South American fishermen, who had seen the whales poaching their fish. After weeks of waiting, about 25 of the whales came up to the scientist's boat, looking like they expected to be fed. Equipment problems prevented the scientists from recording enough of the whale songs, but they used a crossbow to get a tissue sample. Pitman said the whales are so big and their skin so tough that it didn't hurt them, saying the arrow "is like a soda straw bouncing off a truck tire." □

# Rain brings 2nd California super bloom in 2 years



In this Wednesday, March 6, 2019, photo, Rene Garcia holds her three-month-old son Brandon amid wildflowers in bloom near Borrego Springs, Calif.

Associated Press

**BORREGO SPRINGS, Calif. (AP)** — It started with the desert lilies in December. Since then a wave of wildflower blooms has been crescendoing across Southern California's Anza-Borrego desert in a burst of color so vivid it can be seen from mountain tops thousands of feet above.

Two years after steady rains followed by warm temperatures caused seeds dormant for decades under the desert floor to burst open and produce a spectacular display dubbed the "super bloom," another winter soaking this year is expected to create possibly an even better show by Mother Nature.

Having two super blooms in two years is highly unusual. In California, super blooms happen about once in a decade in a given area, and they have been occurring less frequently with the drought.

The 2017 super bloom was the best seen in the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park in 20 years and drew mass crowds to Borrego Springs, a town of 3,500 that abuts the park.

"There's just an abundance in where it's blooming and it's coming in waves," said Betsy Knaak, executive director of the Anza-Borrego Desert Natural History Association, which tracks the blooms.

On a recent day, Knaak wandered through swaths of bright yellow and acres of purple outside Borrego Springs. Families, retired couples and college students traipsed into the fields trying to capture the natural wonder in photos. Stephen Rawding drove out from Carlsbad, north of San Diego, to take photos with his girlfriend after a friend told him it was better than the one in 2017.

"It's unreal," Rawding said.

"It's just like they said — so beautiful."

The setting sun lit up the yellow flowers that contrasted sharply against the brown and copper mountains in the background.

There are tapestries of hot pink Bigelow's Monkey Flower, purple Sand Verberna, delicate white and yellow Evening Primrose and of course the desert lilies, which bloomed extremely early, opening up in December, signaling a super bloom was possible.

Bright orange poppies are also blanketing the sides of Southern California highways.

A research associate at Dice's center recently hiked up to the top of Coyote Mountain and shot a photo of the purple fields 3,000 feet (914 meters) below.

"It was pretty spectacular to see that from up above," Dice said. □

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# Tribal land known for waterfalls won't allow tour guides

By FELICIA FONSECA

**FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP)** — The thousands of tourists who travel to a remote Native American reservation deep in the Grand Canyon each year to camp near a series of picturesque, blue-green waterfalls will have to do so without the benefit of professional guides.

The Havasupai Tribe has decided not to allow outfitters to escort visitors this year down the long, winding path that leads to its small, roadless reservation and on to its main tourist draw: towering waterfalls that cascade into swimming holes that are warm year-round.

Tourists can visit the waterfalls, either by reserving a room at the tribe's only lodge or by snapping up a coveted permit for one of its hundreds of camping spots scattered amid a creek. But starting in February, they'll have to find their

own way to the reservation's waterfalls and caves, and carry their own food and gear.

Abbie Fink, a spokeswoman for the Havasupai Tribe, said the Tribal Council's decision isn't a reflection on the outfitters. Rather, she said the tribe wanted to manage all tourist traffic itself.

"It's not solving a problem. It's returning the enterprise to the control of the tribe," she told The Associated Press.

For years, the tribe has set aside spots for tour companies, which often bought permits in bulk. The outfitters paid a licensing fee of several thousand dollars, and some had elaborate setups with gourmet meals, inflatable couches and massage therapists. Most brought just the essentials. Fink couldn't say exactly how much tour guides paid or how many licenses have



This 1997 file photo shows one of five waterfalls on Havasu Creek as its waters tumble 210 feet on the Havasupai Tribe's reservation in a southeastern branch of the Grand Canyon near Supai, Ariz.

Associated Press

been issued in the past. She said the Tribal Council would re-evaluate outfitter licenses for 2020.

The tribe relies heavily on tourism and estimates that

between February and November, it gets 30,000 to 40,000 visitors per year to its reservation deep in a gorge west of Grand Canyon National Park that's ac-

cessible only by foot or helicopter, or by riding a horse or mule. The tribe does maintenance in the campground and on the trails in December and January.

The tribe doesn't allow day hikes, so visitors wanting to take in its waterfalls and other sights must reserve overnight trips in the campground or at the sole lodge. Rooms in the lodge, which can be booked only by phone, are sold out for the rest of this year. Reservations for 2020 start June 1. Permits for 2019 camping spots become available online Feb. 1 and are expected to sell out in minutes. People on social media have been strategizing for months about how to boost their chances, including by setting up an account early, recruiting friends and family to try to book a trip and repeatedly refreshing multiple internet browsers. □

# Art collected by Jewish lawyer before WWII goes to auction

By JAMIE STENGLE

Associated Press

**DALLAS (AP)** — About 200 works of art from a Jewish lawyer's collection that were spirited out of Nazi Germany to the U.S. are going up for auction.

The works collected by Ismar Littmann being offered Tuesday at Swann Auction Galleries in New York are mostly drawings, etchings and lithographs. They were once part of a collection of about 6,000 pieces he amassed. The works being auctioned are pieces brought out of Germany before World War II by Littmann's son, who eventually settled in Texas.

Todd Weyman, auction house vice president, said the collection is notable for its singular focus on German works.

"His collecting was very optimistic for what was to happen," Weyman said. "He was looking forward to putting together this great German collection."

The civic-minded collector in Breslau, which after World War II became the



In this undated photo art is displayed that is going up for auction at Swann Auction Galleries in New York that were once part of a 6,000-piece collection amassed by a Jewish attorney in Germany before pieces were scattered and lost as the Nazis took over.

Associated Press

Polish city of Wroclaw, co-founded the Breslau Jewish Museum in the city that had a thriving art scene. Littmann was friends with many of the artists whose works he acquired, including Otto Mueller and Heinrich Tischler.

But with the Nazis in power, restrictions on Jewish law-

yers led to the demise of Littmann's practice. He killed himself in 1934.

His son, Edward, who changed the spelling of his last name to Littman, immigrated to the U.S. in 1933. He returned to Germany after his father died and was able to ship around 800 works back to the U.S., said

Edward Littman's son, John Littman, 61, of Houston.

John Littman says there's no way to know how much of the collection, which had a focus on German Expressionism, still exists. He says some pieces were confiscated, some destroyed and some sold under duress. The auction house

notes that when Ismar Littmann's widow consigned about 160 works to a Berlin auction house, the Gestapo seized 64 of the works — 11 went to a museum and the rest were burned.

John Littman said the family has worked to get around eight pieces restituted.

Weyman points out that the pieces that remain were those that were "most transportable, the works that were flat works on paper."

John Littman said his father served in the Army during World War II in Europe. Edward Littman eventually settled in Wharton, located about 60 miles (96 kilometers) southwest of Houston, and, like his father, practiced law.

John Littman said his father, who died in 1970, built special cabinets in his attic for the artwork. "He spent a lot of time with the collection through the years," he said. John Littman said it's clear his grandfather was a "very passionate collector."

"It was very personal to him," Littman said. □



# Fate of Kate's pregnancy is center stage on 'This Is Us'

By LYNN ELBER

Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — "This Is Us" routinely brings viewers to tears. Next week, it's taking them to the theater.

The hit NBC series will air an episode modeled on a one-act play and confined almost entirely to a hospital waiting room and to a single day, a sharp detour from its usual flashback storytelling.

In Tuesday's episode (9 p.m. EDT), the extended — and stretched to the breaking point — Pearson family is gathered after Kate Pearson (Chrissy Metz) goes into early labor.

The setting is simple. The drama is anything but.

Brothers, spouses and partners clash as their anxiety unleashes anger and hurt over Kevin's (Justin Hartley) alcoholism and Randall and Beth's (Sterling K. Brown, Susan Kelechi Watson) marital strain.

As the hours tick by without word about Kate or the baby's fate, there's a frustrated — deeply warranted — outburst from her mom, Rebecca (Mandy Moore),



This photo provided by NBC shows actors from left, Justin Hartley and Melanie Liburd from a scene from "The Waiting Room" from the NBC drama series "This Is Us."

Associated Press

and a milder one from Rebecca's ever-patient husband, Miguel (Jon Huertas). Even Kate's peppy, well-meaning pal Madison (Caitlin Thompson) comes in for a rebuke from a hungover Kevin, while his wary girlfriend, Zoe (Melanie Liburd), weighs their future. "This Is Us" is known for its ability to make viewers cry,

which explains the decorative tissue boxes gifted to series creator Dan Fogelman and scattered around his office. But "The Waiting Room" episode is both tougher than usual and a bold departure.

Fogelman, also among the series' executive producers, recalled the guidance he gave the episode's author,

playwright Bekah Brunstetter, when she started on the script.

"I want to put a really intense, one-act play on national television, but I think the characters and the actors and the audience's knowledge of them will make it accessible because everybody will be on board with them," he told

her.

The result is a showcase for its cast, honored as best drama ensemble by the Screen Actors Guild in January against stiff competition that included FX's "The Americans" and Hulu's "The Handmaid's Tale." It also boasts Emmy winners, Brown among them.

"You underestimate these actors as 'television network actors' at your own peril," Fogelman said. "They're doing some heavyweight stage work ... I think they're going to hold the screen for a network audience in a strange form that that audience is not used to."

The episode evokes an earlier one in which Kevin enters rehab and, with the family gathered to support him, an 11-minute sequence shot in a single take plays out.

But the drama has challenged convention from the start, with its intricate, era-jumping approach to Rebecca and Jack's (Milo Ventimiglia) lives and those of siblings Randall, Kate and Kevin, nicknamed "The Big Three." □

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## Way Down Wanderers bend genres in soaring set



This cover image released by The Way Down Wanderers shows their self-released album, "Illusions."

Associated Press

By SCOTT STROUD

Associated Press

The Way Down Wanderers,

"Illusions"

Somewhere on the spectrum between Old Crow

Medicine Show and Mumford and Sons lies the spirited bluegrass-based artistry of the Way Down Wanderers.

With their second release, "Illusions," the Illinois quintet puts its own hybrid imprint on the lickety-split brand of Americana that draws rock 'n' roll power from a banjo, a standup bass, a mandolin and other traditional sounds.

For band members and listeners alike, the desired effect is the adrenaline rush.

The album ranges around some, mostly between runaway jams and balladry. The lyrics are descriptive if not especially groundbreaking, and the musicianship is first-rate. The airtight harmonies and cohesive ensemble work reward repeat listening. □



# Book casts welcome light on actress Vivien Leigh

By DOUGLASS K. DANIEL  
Associated Press

"Dark Star: A Biography of Vivien Leigh" (I.B. Tauris), by Alan Strachan

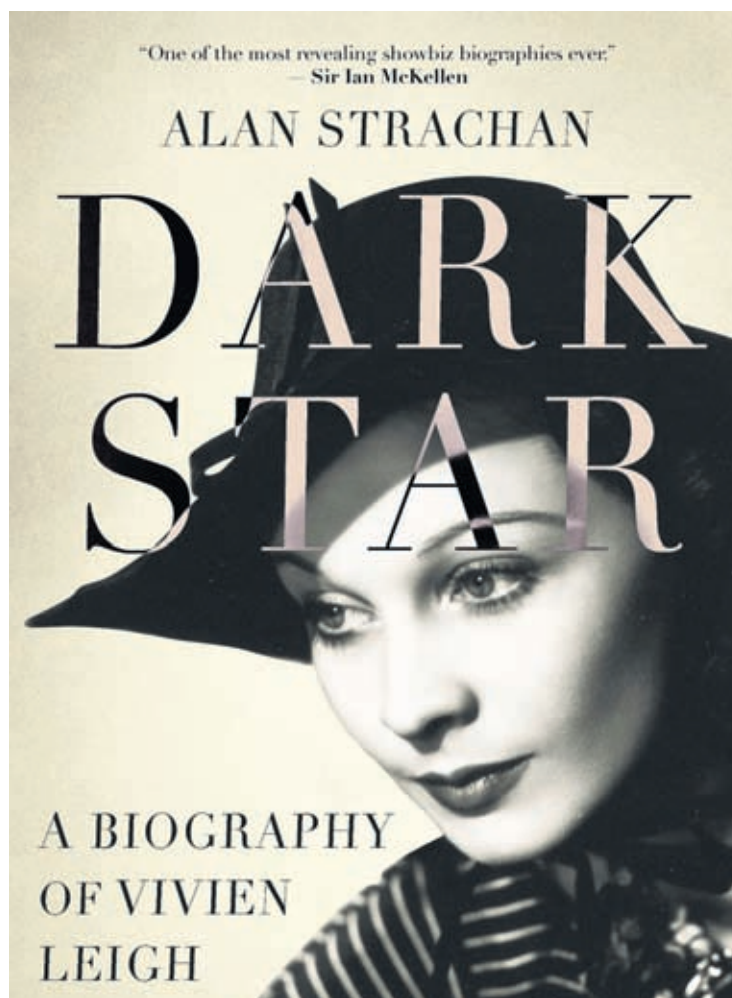
Playing two of the greatest female roles ever offered in film — Scarlett O'Hara in "Gone with the Wind" and Blanche DuBois in "A Streetcar Named Desire" — has guaranteed actress Vivien Leigh a place in popular culture. Yet her stage work, often overlooked by her film fans, may have been the true showcase of her talent.

Alan Strachan, a director and a chronicler of the British theater, gives Leigh's full career a stirring reassessment in an immensely readable biography, "Dark Star." He argues convincingly that there was far more to Leigh than her mesmerizing beauty, which could blind critics to the power behind her performances.

Strachan also pierces the darkness that never left Leigh: mental illness. Bipolar

disorder, called manic depression in her day, explains in part her failings as a wife and mother. It certainly seems to have fueled her drinking, extramarital affairs and occasionally odd behavior, allowing comparisons to the faded, shattered Blanche — the performance that put an Oscar next to the one for Scarlett O'Hara.

The surprise of "Dark Star" is that Leigh's life doesn't appear as sunken by sadness as it's been described elsewhere. While not downplaying the manic episodes that damaged her career — Elizabeth Taylor took over the film "Elephant Walk" following a Leigh breakdown — Strachan describes the good times, too. By his account she was a loving companion, a loyal friend and a generous, amiable colleague. His evidence comes from Leigh's diaries and letters and those of relatives, friends and colleagues.



This cover image released by I.B. Tauris shows "Dark Star: A Biography of Vivien Leigh" by Alan Strachan.

Associated Press

The actress who played two iconic Southerners was born Vivian Mary Hartley in Darjeeling, British India, in 1913, and was raised in Calcutta. Her mother was also India-born and perhaps in a mixed-race family. Her father, born in Scotland while his Yorkshire family was visiting, had moved to India and become wealthy as an exchange broker. An amateur actor, he shared his pastime with his daughter and theater became her passion.

The Hartleys sent 6-year-old Vivian to England for a Catholic education. Her convent education continued in her teens with schools in France, Italy and Germany. She was attending the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts in London when she met a handsome lawyer, Leigh Holman, whom she married in 1932. Soon a mother, she went on to seek work on the stage and in film under the name Vivien Leigh. □

# Devils, bandits romp at Carnival in Spanish towns

By ALVARO BARRIENTOS  
Associated Press

ALSASUA, Spain (AP) — Dozens of devil-like figures dance and convulse at the sound of cowbells, chasing onlookers with pitchforks in Alsasua as part of this northern Spanish town's Carnival.

Alsasua is one of several villages in this remote region in the foothills of Pyrenees Mountains that still honor these colorful local festivities whose origin is unknown.

Called "momotxorros" in the Basque language, these half-human and half-animal creatures display the skin of sheep on their backs and white long pieces of sheets stained with bright-red animal blood on the front.

The heads are topped with the horns of a bull over a basket normally used for agricultural produce, and horsehair covers the faces of anonymous revelers taking part in the riotous celebration.



"Txatxus" dance during an ancient rural carnival in the small Pyrenees village of Lantz, northern Spain, Sunday, March 3, 2019.

Associated Press

In this fashion, the "momotxorros" dance around bonfires and roam the cobble streets of this town of 7,500 until everybody converges in a central square

for a grand finale in which everyone dances in a big circle. By then, they are joined by other mythical characters including a billy goat, known locally as an "akerra" — representing

the devil — and lascivious "sorginak," or witches. In the nearby village of Lesaka, residents dress up as the traditional Carnival characters "Zaku Zaharrak," meaning "old sack" in the

local Basque language. After sunset, covering their faces with white handkerchiefs, stuffed into sacks full of straw, and holding a stick with an inflated animal's bladder used to hit people, the Zaku Zaharrak characters parade for hours through the village dancing and singing while a band plays music.

Meanwhile, the townsfolk of the village of Lantz parade a giant "Miel Otxin", a legendary bandit and symbol of their Carnival festivities. The straw filling the "Miel Otxin" doll is removed and burnt.

These traditions have been celebrated for centuries, days before the official start of Lent, the 40-day period when Christians around the world prepare to mark Easter, the remembrance of Jesus' death. They were banned during the 1939-1975 dictatorship of Gen. Francisco Franco in Spain, but have been revived since the early 1990s. □



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HARRY WINSTON

CORUM

JAEGGER-LECOULTRE

MICHELE

PANERAI

PIAGET

HUBLOT

AUDEMARS PIGUET  
Le Brassard

LONGINES

IWC  
SCHAFFHAUSEN

EBEL

TISSOT  
SWISS WATCHES SINCE 1853

SWAROVSKI

CHANEL

HAMILTON  
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